13 1948

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

1-1-48

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Comparative homicidal deaths among the races during past years is as follows:

YEAR	NEGRO	WHITE
1938	94	13
1939	90	9
1940	100	10
1941	107	9
1942	76	8
1943	42	12
1944	50	20
1945	76	15
1946	95	

It is speculated that with the installation of eight Negro police officers during this year, homicides and crime in general among Negroes will see further abatement as they will ~~be able~~ to understand the problems of Negroes and thereby get at the core of breeding places.

Thurs 1-1-48

Gas Station Attendant Admits Holdup Hoax

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

A service station attendant is in City Jail here today after admitting to police that an attempted burglary of the station safe, reported by him, was a hoax.

The attendant, Charles Foster, 35, told officers that a six-foot Negro opened the safe at the Spur Service Station, Eighth Avenue and North 21st Street, where Foster was employed as night operator.

Police said they received the burglary report about 4 a.m. Officers began a search for the burglar. Detectives George A. Palmer and C. E. Huey started an investigation at the station.

Tue. 8-3-48

The detectives said Foster finally admitted that he opened the safe with a screw driver.

Foster, who had been working at the station for a week, lives at 505 North 21st Street. He is charged with attempted burglary and grand larceny.

SEIZE 19 WOMEN, TWO MEN IN RAIDS

Times Picayune

Tues 12-28-48

Police Hold Group for Probe of White Slavery

New Orleans, La.

Several police raids late Tuesday and early Wednesday resulted in arrest of 19 women and two men and their being held for federal investigation in connection with white slavery.

Seven women who gave their address as 746 Baronne were arrested there about midnight. They were Toni Gambine, 23; Ruth Moore, 25; Toni Hanson, 21; Sandra Myers, 22; Helen Young, 23; Wanda Malone, 23, and Virginia Smith, 25.

They were booked with vagrancy and held for the federal authorities.

Also picked up there on charges of loitering and for investigation was Vincent Caruso, 44, 3116 Dauphine.

Seven other women were arrested from 404 Canal and were booked with loitering in a house of prostitution and were held for the federal bureau of investigation.

They were Patsy Moore, 33, Doris Campbell, 22; Betty Lee, 22; Ann King, 24, and Louise Martyne, 27, all of whom said they lived at 404 Canal; and Catherine Jackson, 21, 1335 Magazine, and Virginia Perry, 21, 4019 Chartres.

Five women and a man were arrested in a raid at 859 Magazine. They were Mary Brown, 22; Lena Mae Bass, 21, and Mary Wilson, alias Mary Rumbaugh, 21, all of that address and booked with aiding and abetting a house of prostitution; Virginia Jacobucci, 22, same address, booked with committing an immoral act; Alice Gaston, Negro, 21, 1012 St. Louis, aiding and abetting in operation of an immoral house, and Dale Rives Hall, 22, no local address, committing an immoral act.

Thurs 1-8-48

All were held for investigation as suspects involved in white slavery, police said

Typist Tells of Operation

Afro American

Sat 10-30-48

Says She Was Paid to Leave Washington

MEDIC IS SILENT

Unmarried Girl Found She Was Pregnant

Baltimore, Md.

WASHINGTON

Was the hand of Dr. Schley Brown, 52-year-old physician, guiding the razor-sharp scapel when an illegal operation was performed on a 24-year old unmarried white typist?

The Government says it was, while Dr. Brown just as vigorously says no. The final decision is resting with a jury sitting here in Judge Henry A. Schweinhaut's court. Curiously Dr. Brown did not take the stand in his own defense.

The auburn-haired typist, Lee Jeanette Lefaro, visibly nervous, took the stand to charge she was given $1,071 for "expenses" and advised to "get out of town" to prevent her appearance on Jan. 7, 1948, the date the trail was originally set.

The operation, she said, was performed on her Sept. 19, 1947. Nervously twisting a handkerchief in her hands, she told the court that Dr. Brown had personally handed her $300, and that the rest of the $1,071 came from Ellis Klein, her attorney during last January, February and March.

Police Summoned

According to the woman's story, unfolded before the four-woman, eight-man jury, the payments began the day before Dr. Brown's trial was originally scheduled last January.

The case was postponed because of her absence and court marshals and police sought futilely for Miss LoFaro, who was not located until recently.

Sat 10-30-48

The typist, formerly employed by the Western Electric Co., testified that in May, 1947, she learned she was pregnant, and on Sept. 1, she began to contact Dr. Brown, who examined her and agreed that she was pregnant.

The operation, she testified, was performed, but within a few days complications set in and she was taken to Gallinger Hospital, and police were called.

Refused to Sign

The typist told the jury that on Jan. 1 she received a mysterious phone call from Mattie Lou Rowe, 26, of 1600 block R St., N.W., who asked her to sign a statement that "I had taken quinine or something."

She said she was skeptical and did not sign, but on Jan. 6, according to her testimony, she went with her attorney to the Rowe apartment. Dr. Brown arrived afterwards, she told the jury, and he and Klein talked privately.

After the conference between the physician and lawyer, she testified, Klein returned with $200 for her and she went to Pittsburgh for a day and a half.

When she returned, she said, she was met at the Union Station by Klein and they went to the attorney's home at Fleeton, Va., where she stayed a week, receiving $100 for "expenses."

She told the court that Dr. Brown delivered $300 to her personally last March, and that other money was given to her by Klein for trips to Boston and at one time to "hide out" at Hamilton Hotel.

Mrs. Ramona B. Herndon, 24, of the 1400 block Chapin St., N.W., described as a "close friend of Miss LoFaro," tlod the jury that she saw Miss LoFaro give Dr. Brown the money after the alleged operation at his office, and that she took the patient home.

Dr. Brown has been charged with performing illegal operations four times. In two cases, hung juries resulted and the cases are to be retried, and in another case the United States attorney's office noll prossed the case because, it was said, the complainant was reluctant to testify.

South's Crime Rate Less Than Other Areas

The Press

BY DAN [illegible]

Propagandist during the past few years have spent millions of words in apparent efforts to make the Southern states look ~~like the~~ crime center of the nation.

Fri 9-24-48

Crimes in this area are seized upon by certain elements in other sections and the facts twisted.

Nearly always, somebody succeeds in linking the crime to the race question.

It is a matter of record, however, that in the South, where the percentage of Negro population is great, the annual violent crime total is less than in other sections.

For instance, between 1933-42, there were 16 major kidnapings.

Only one of these was in the South and that was the kidnaping of James Bailey Cash Jr. in Princeton, Fla., on May 28, 1938.

Birmingham, Ala.

The other 15 cases were reported in these cities: Denver; Kansas City; St. Paul; Alton, Ill.; Oklahoma City; San Jose, Cal.; St. Paul; Los Angeles; Louisville; Tacoma; Chicago; White Plains, N. Y.; New Rochelle, N. Y.; Columbus O., and Hillsborough, Cal.

During 1946 there were fewer murders in the South than in other sections.

Fri 9-24-48

A city by city breakdown of murders reported leading Northern and Southern cities during 1946:

Birmingham: 68; of these, 59 were Negro and the other nine victims were white.

Atlanta, 97; Dallas, 81; Houston, 105; Louisville, 51; Memphis, 44; New Orleans, 75; Norfolk, 48; Richmond, 43; Savannah, 23.

Chicago, 231; New York, 346; Philadelphia, 152; Cincinnati, 50; Cleveland, 59; Detroit, 109; Los Angeles, 116.

Fri 9-24-48

Monday — More Negroes vote every election day.

Mobile Negro Sentenced For Extortion Attempt

The Advertiser

Sat 11-13-48

Federal Judge John McDuffie today sentenced a Negro man charged with attempting to extort $3,000 from a cab company operator to a year and a day in prison.

Montgomery, Ala.

The Negro, Julius Sayers, 24, pleaded guilty to the charge. He was arrested after he picked up a dummy package of money which had been delivered in answer to a threatening note.

CHARGED WITH HAVING MARIHUANA

Times Picayune

New Orleans, La.

[illegible] Stovall, [illegible], 1416 Willow, was booked in the Second Precinct with having marihuana cigarettes in his possession after his arrest by detectives from in front of [illegible] about 2:15 p. m. Thursday.

Harlemite Held For White Slavery

Black Dispatch

Sat 1-17-48

NEW YORK, — (ANP) — George Giles, 45-year-old Negro, was arrested in Harlem last week on a charge of white slavery after a suicide attempt by one of three white girls who had been kept in a padlocked Harlem apartment.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Associated with Giles was Jack LaVern, 45-year-old white man, who lured the unsuspecting girl from a bus station to his apartment where she was later turned over to Giles. Giles made a complete confession to the police. LaVern, however, has denied any connection with the racket. Both Giles and LaVern have long prison records.

At Bellevue hospital, where she was recovering from the effects of gas, one of the girls, a rumba dancer from Key West, Fla., described her plight when she arrived in New York with $45 and was unable to get the hotel reservations she thought she had. She had hoped to get work as a dancer.

She said a well-dressed man, later identified as LaVern, started a conversation with her and persuaded her to accompany him to his apartment with the idea of becoming a prostitution on a voluntary basis and with the privilege of choosing her own custimers. LaVern, instead, took her to Harlem and introduced her to Giles who paid money to LaVern.

Giles then shoved her into an apartment on West 125th street occupied by three other girls and padlocked the door. He solicited trade for the girls, unlocking the door only for the arrival and departure of customers. Giles took half of the earnings which amounted to as much as $200 a day.

Sat 1-17-48

Each night at 9:30, LaVern would come and get her, take her back to his apartment, and return her to the Harlem apartment the next morning.

On the basis of her story, police kept an eye on Giles and the house for several days, then arrested him and three girls. Giles was arrested later. Both men are being held without bail pending a hearing.

Warrant to Be Issued for Him

Afro American

Magistrate Accused of Violating '37 Act

Baltimore Md

4 JURISTS CITED

Investigators Combed Records of 5 Years

Sat 12-4-48

PHILADELPHIA

"I have nothing to fear," Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey declared Tuesday, in commenting on the announcement that warrants for his arrest and that of three other magistrates would be sought by Laurence H. Eldredge, special deputy attorney general.

Eldredge, who has headed the Commonwealth's investigation of Philadelphia magistrates courts, said that warrants would be obtained against Magistrates Rainey, Thomas A. Connor, Jacob Dogole and James T. Donnelly, charging them with violation of the 1937 Magistrate's Act.

Specifically, they will be charged, Eldredge said, with granting continuances or further hearings in cases without recording the reason in their dockets as required by Sections 14 and 43-b of the act.

Similar Case Backfires

The announcement by Eldredge was made Monday, three days after a jury failed to agree in a case involving similar charges against former Chief Magistrate John H. O'Malley.

Sat 12-4-48

Eldredge's statement said that the case against Rainey had not been completed, but that there were already 2,000 violations charged against him.

The Commonwealth Attorney said that the warrants would list 294 counts against Connor; 1209 against Dogole and 989 against Donnelly.

Asks Public's Objectivity

Magistrate Ramey said he was not at all worried about the outcome of the case.

"All I ask," Rainey told the AFRO, "is that the public hold in obeyance any opinion until the entire facts are disclosed."

He added that any further comment would have to come from his attorney, Lemuel B. Schofield, who also directed the defense of O'Malley.

Warrants for the four magistrates will not be served on them until Monday when they have been asked, through their attorneys, to appear in City Hall voluntarily for a preliminary hearing.

Rainey, one of three colored magistrates, is a registered Democrat. Because the party refused to enter a colored Congressional candidate, he made an unsuccessful run for Congress on the Progressive Party ticket during the last election.

Sat 12-4-48

A star athlete in high school and later coach at Lincoln University, he was at one time a reporter for the Philadelphia Record. He later served as member of the State Athletic Commission. He has been a magistrate 11 years.

Three-times head of the Philadelphia branch NAACP, he announced a couple of weeks ago that he would not be a candidate for re-election.

His court, No. 20, at 2406 North Broad St., is one of the busiest in the city, especially in regard to criminal cases. His office handles about 15 times as many cases as Connor's and about 50 per cent more than Donnelly's. The investigation of the magistrate's books covered a five year period.

Eldredge's statement made pointed reference to the possibility of police graft, declaring:

"By the practice of holding persons' for further hearing' opportunities are afforded for the 'fixing' of cases between hearings, for the practice of extortion by police officers and others and for the operation of sinister political influences."

Sat 12-4-48

The deputy said that the books of the four accused magistrates "do not show any pattern of changing decisions in violation" of the Magistrates' Act.

But, he added, the Attorney General cannot overlook "wholesale violations" of the section on continuances, "particularly in view of the fact that in 1945 the district attorney specifically warned them of its requirements."

Section 14 of the Act reads: "No continuance of a hearing of a criminal case shall be granted by a magistrate, unless the person requesting the continuance shall state, under oath, his or her reason therefore, and the reason stated, together with the name of the party requesing the same, shall be noted by the magistrate in his docket and shall be returned as part of the transcript of the case."

Sat 12-4-48

Section 43-b, reads: "It shall be unlawful for any magistrate to allow a further hearing in any criminal case without complying with the provisions of Section 14 of this act.

13 1948

Arson

Walton Tribune Admits It Erred

Daily World (13)

MONROE, Ga. — (SNS) — The Walton Tribune, published in Monroe, Georgia, admitted this week it had erred in a story which stated that C. A. Scott, Editor-General Manager of the Atlanta Daily World had told a Walton County Grand Jury that Isaiah Grimes had confessed to the crimes of arson and murder in his presence December 15, 1947. Atlanta, Ga.

The paer said: "Scott is correct in stating that Grimes had not been charged with murder when he saw him in December, and The Tribune is glad to make the clarification." Fri 3-19-48

The Tribune story appeared in the February 20 issue of the paper.

Sentence Delayed Again For White Arson Suspects

(13) Daily World

Sentencing of two white youths who pleaded guilty in attempting to burn down a Negro-owned building in Northwest Atlanta was postponed for the second time Thursday, court clerks reveal.

Fri 4-2-48

The youths, Harold O'Kelly and George Gantt, entered guilty pleas sometime ago in Fulton Superior court. They were slated to be sentenced yesterday. New date for sentencing is set for May 6, it was stated. Atlanta, Ga.

O'Kelly and Gantt, along with other white youths, were indicted on attempted arson charges. They were accused of conspiring and setting fire to a Kennedy Street building owned by Mrs. Daisy Banks.

The other youths have not yet been tried.

Police Leave Posts, Hoodlums Set Fire To Chicago Area Home

Daily World 13

Sun 10-31-48

CHICAGO — (ANP) — White hoodlums set fire to the home of Mrs. Paralee Johnson in the "white" Park Manor area last week as two policemen assigned to guard the home left their posts.

Atlanta, Ga.

Because a next door neighbor noticed the smoke soon after the fire was started the family of six including a baby escaped injury, and the fires caused little damage.

Fire thugs poured gasoline on the back porch of the home and lighted the fire while Officer William Doherty was absent from his post.

CALLS HOME STATION

His superior officers, Lt. William Henessy, acting captain of the Woodlawn station, explained that Doherty had been ordered to call his home station, the 11th district.

Patrolman John S. Laughlin of the [illegible]th district, assigned to gurad the front of the building, was standing, on a corner a few doors from the home when it was set aflame.

Sun 10-31-48

Of him, Lt. Hennessy said, "Patrolman Laughlin told me that when he saw the fire engines pull up, he ran around to the rear of the building and saw the fire.

MORE POLICE SOUGHT

The Dearborn Real Estate board declared after this fire that it would ask Mayor Kennelly to send more alert policemen to this community to halt the series of fires in Negro homes.

Mrs. Grace Smith, Mrs. Johnson's next door neighbor, spotted the fire and called the fire department. Both she and Mrs. Ann L. Ivy, the victim's sister, complained of the way in which the department handled the fire. Sun 10-31-48

Describing the situation, City Fire Atty. Earle R. Downes said. "It was strictly a racial matter. Someone set that fire after two policemen assigned to guard the building had left their posts."

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4 Lives Periled in Blaze at Home in 'Disputed Area'

Afro-American (13)

Baltimore Md. Sat. 8-28-48

Breaching of Restrictive Covenant Basis for Unrest; Witness Falls Dead

BALTIMORE

The lives of four persons, including a 5-month-old infant, were threatened by death through an incendiary fire kindled by an arsonist early Wednesday on the porch of a home in the controversy-ridden, racially mixed 1700 block of N. Payson St.

On Thursday, members of the police and fire departments were investigating the deliberately set blaze, but said that they faced a stone wall in their search for an arson suspect, although evidence was found on the scene.

The fire was kindled on the small porch in the rear of 1712 N. Payson St., the home of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Scott and their infant daughter.

White Neighbor Gives Alarm

Officers Anthony Taylor and Frank Serra said they had been called to the scene by James Oppolt, white, of 1710 Payson St., who discovered the fire.

Because of the timely warning, the blaze, which might have taken a toll in lives, was extinguished with a minimum of damage wrought.

The fire was caused by someone igniting some kerosene. Officers found a pint mason jar filled with coal oil under the porch, approximately 6 by 10 feet in size.

Resting on the porch a scant few inches from the screen door was another jar and an empty tuna fish can, both of which had contained coal oil. 8-28-48

Adjoining Neighbor Harassed

Before being doused, the blaze burned a portion of the porch flooring and blistered the paint on the back door and the boards dividing the two porches.

The porch at the Scotts' home adjoins one attached to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Epstein white neighbors around whom a racial controversy has revolved for two years. Sat.

The Scott family and a brother-in-law, Clifton Scott, who occupied rooms on the second floor were asleep at the time. Two other residents were at work.

Not Warned of Trouble

Mrs. Scott said they were awakened by the sound of loud talking and commotion out back, but that the blaze had been extinguished by that time.

She could give no reason for the deliberate attempt to harm the household. "We have no enemies and especially anyone who would set fire to our house," she declared.

"If any of the white neighbors had objected to our living here it seems to me they would have shown resentment when we moved in last December," the housewife observed.

She disclosed that relations between her household and the white neighbors in the block have been most amicable and devoid of rough edges. 8-28-48

Epstein Family Scapegoat

It was recalled that the Epstein family is the group that seems to have borne the brunt of the racial attacks since the summer of 1946.

It was at that time that Mr. Epstein "broke" the previously all-white block by selling one of the houses to a colored family.

Since that time his family has been harrassed, humiliated and openly insulted by the white residents. Sat. 8-28-48

In August of 1946, Mr. Epstein was haled into Northwestern police court on an alleged "trumped-up" charge which he said grew out of his opening the block to occupancy by colored families.

Opponent Collapsed, Died

On Wednesday of last week, the Epsteins were again taken to court on a show cause order arising from petty spats involving children.

It was while one of the witnesses opposed to Epstein was giving the white residents' version of the differences that he suddenly gasped for breath and collapsed.

The witness, Harry Miller, 69, a retired patrolman assigned to Northwestern district for 30 years, was pronounced dead in Maryland General Hospital.

Dealer Bares Threats

Epstein, in discussing Miller's death, which he called "poetic justice," with an AFRO reporter, said that members of Miller's family had vowed to "get even" with him for the "trouble" that he had caused them.

The house which he sold to a colored buyer in 1946 was at 1718 N. Payson St., four doors from the home of the Scotts, which was set afire. 8-28-48

The Epsteins feel that they are being annoyed and persecuted because of their belief that a person should have the right to live in a decent house and neighborhood regardless of his race.

Restrictive convenants barring land and homeowners from selling to certain religious and racial groups have been declared outlawed through a recent decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Determined to combat any efforts by prejudiced white neighbors to force them from their home, the Epsteins, two years ago, appealed to the NAACP and the Urban League for advice.

Five Indicted By Fulton Grand Jury

(13) Daily World 1-11-48

Five white youths were carried before a Fulton County grand jury Friday and indicted on charges of arson, alleging that they conspired and set fire to a Negro-owned building at 782 Kenney St., N. W. Atlanta, Ga.

The youths were: Harold O'Kelley, 17, of 605 Means St., N. W.; George "Jeep" Gantt, 16, of 561 Simmons St., N. W.; George Wallace, 20, of 809 Kennedy St., N. W.; Donald Lee "Baldy" Adams, 16, of 677 North Ave., N. W.; and William "Chink" Martin.

Round-up of the suspected quintet resulted when two Negroes identified O'Kelley as having hurled something into the building shortly before the flames were observed last Sunday. Sat.

Following O'Kelley's arrest, Detective Sgt. Glyn Cowan and Detective J. L. Moseley began immediate investigation into the case and subsequently placed the other four suspects under arrest. 1-11-48

WHITES COOPERATED

Det. Sgt. Cowan remarked that the latter arrests resulted largely from cooperation of some of the white residents in the vicinity.

A sixth suspect was listed as a 13-year-old youth who was turned over to juvenile authorities. He was said to have admitted purchasing the gasoline used in drenching the floor of the building.

When being questioned at City Police headquarters the Detectives said the youths admitted entering into a conspiracy and setting fire to the building. The fire caused considerable damage to the wooden floor.

Daily World

Owner of the building, Mrs. Daisy Banks, of 870 West St., reported that Sunday's attempt to burn the building down was the fourth attempt.

Atlanta, Ga.

The building previously housed a white barber shop known as Knight's Barber Shop and became vacant about a month ago when the white occupants moved out.

CONSPIRACY OVERHEARD

During initial investigations two white residents in the neighborhood reportedly told police that they overheard the youths plotting the conspiracy and could identify them.

Sat. 1-17-4

The burned building is located in the disputed section that has seen recurring flares of housing terrorisms since Negroes started migrating there.

First observance of the disorders occurred when the Columbians, Inc., set themselves up with police power and attempted to thwart the migration into the predominantly white neighborhood.

13 1948

Florida

Miami Negro Slums Get Severe Drubbing By Ass't Police Chief

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

By JAMES B. LaFOURCHE

MIAMI, Fla.—Miami's slum ridden Negro environs came in for a severe drubbing last Thursday when Assistant Police Chief Walter E. Headley, told the Citizens Slum Clearance Committee that 62 per cent of the misdemeanor cases handled by the police had their origin in "the huts and hovels of the belighted area in question, which houses [illegible] per cent of the population.

7-10-48

The slum dwellings, contended the enforcement official, are the incubus for the breeding of more than 75 per cent of the city's major violence. Mr. Headley also added that because of lack of proper communication and the difficulty experienced in patrolling alleys and dead-end streets, only 25 per cent of misdemeanors committed are reported. Arrests in the white areas, he said, were about 90 per cent.

Liberty City, a low-rent housing project for Negroes, was pointed out by Mr. Headley as a model community where "Crime is practically nil."

WIPE OUT GAMBLING

The committee, five of whom are Negroes, told the police head that they thought the greatest contributing factors to the commission of crime was the leniency shown Negro violators by the courts, and they emphasized further that the widespread activities of bolita, Cuba and other gaming vices had the support of "high connections."

It was at this instance that Abe Aronovitx, prominent white attorney, demanded that the police drive gambling operators from the Negro district.

"I challenge the police to enforce the gambling laws regardless of who is hurt," thundered Mr. Aronovitz. "This vicious racket that takes away the pennies and nickles from the poorest people is definitely related to our problem of providing suitable housing. The health, welfare and economy of the entire community is affected."

JURY SYSTEM HIT

Hitting Miami's jury system, Mr. Aronovitz said: "The tendencies on the part of juries in Dade county to view killings of Negroes by Negroes with less determination than those of whites is a sad commentary. It is a serious matter that a member of the Negro race has to ask that the law be enforced to the limit."

Mr. Aronovitz's drastic remarks followed an appeal made by Dr. I. P. Davis, committee member, that "Life is cheap in our section. It is a common saying that you can commit murder and spend $100 for a good lawyer and get out. We don't want leniency. The courts are sending criminals back into our area."

ZONING CRITICIZED

The city zoning board was sharply criticized because it turned down an offer to replace Negro hovels with a modern project. The board's refusal was "because it encroached right on that imaginary line dividing white and Negro sections."

7-10-48

An attorney representing real estate interests thought that: "If the property owners are given an opportunity to improve their holdings by voluntary effort, the necessity for condemnation will be relegated to oblivion."

Teen-Age Girls Charge Father With Incest

The Columbia Record

GRAHAM, N. C., Aug. 20—(UP)—Two teen-age girls today accused their father of forcing them to submit to him more times than they could remember since their mother's death.

Fri 8-20-48

Sara Katherine Edmonds, the painter's eldest daughter, also was held, Moore said, on charges of voluntary submission to her father.

Moore said the two younger daughters, 17-year-old Doris Kay and 16-year-old Mary Frances, came to him earlier this week to lodge charges.

Columbia, S.C.

The girls told police their father and elder sister had been living in the same room at home for some time, Moore said.

Edmonds and his eldest daughter, 18-year-old Sara Katherine, were ordered held for hearing in superior court Nov. 29 at a hearing before Magistrate C. C. Bayliff.

13 1948

Kentucky

Negroes and Crime

Courier-Journal Fri. 1-16-48

A few days ago your paper stated there were 56 homicides in Louisville during 1947. The white population contributed 23 of the killings, while Negroes killed 33 persons. If the whites had committed as many crimes, per 1,000 population, as the colored did, Louisville would be a city that people from other sections would shun. Louisville, Ky.

There are some colored people eternally agitating against Jim Crow laws, segregation, etc. Wouldn't it be better if they would use their time and talents toward building a better Negro race? Louisville is around 20 per cent colored, yet it seems from newspaper and court records over 50 per cent of purse-snatching and robberies are done by Negroes.

Louisville. Fri. 1-16-48 George Wallace.

Negroes and Crime

Courier-Journal

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal:

It would seem that when George Wallace analyzed the cause of crime in Louisville he overlooked some very important facts and factors. Scientists have proven that there is nothing in the biological make-up of a Negro which would make him more of a criminal than a white man. Among the causes of crime, according to sociologists and criminologists, are poor education, poor health, poor housing, economic instability and fear. Any human being who is subject to those conditions is more likely to be a criminal. That is why we find in an all-white community that the folk with the lowest income have the highest crime rate.

I am sure Mr. Wallace realizes that it takes training and education and the opportunity to get a job to raise one's standard of living. I might suggest he consult the Louisville National Urban League to get a better idea of what conditions Negroes are living under, and "under" is surely an appropriate word. Alice Umans.

Berea, Ky.

Louisville Ky.

Most of the crime among Negroes can truthfully be credited to the Jim Crow law, if law it is. Even if 50 per cent of the crimes in Louisville are committed by Negroes, which I doubt, it seems to be a fair percentage under the circumstances. Just try, if you will, to picture your own children denied their rights, from birth for 60 years, in every conceivable way and then compare the percentage.

Louisville. Pleasant Scott.

The Negro has just as much right to live, engage in the pursuit of happiness and have an education as the white race does. If Negroes were given their full rights and due respect and were understood as humans by those who are intolerant of Negroes, there would be a great alleviation of homicides, not only in Louisville but throughout the nation.

Louisville. Carlos A. Lynesill.

Maybe if the people of Louisville would back the F.E.P.C., the Negroes as a whole would have more jobs and would have less time for so-called mischief. This would help bring about what Thomas Jefferson called "equal rights for all, special privilege for none." If this can be accomplished, I would suggest that Mr. Wallace watch his daily newspaper and keep an eye on the progress of the Negro race as a whole. Andrew Bryant.

Frankfort, Ky.

Similar replies to Mr. Wallace are contained in letters from George W. Jones of Hodgenville and Margaret Bradshaw of Louisville.—(Editor.

Discrimination and Crime

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky.

George Wallace's letter, "Negroes and Crime," illuminates the fact that the caste system is destructive, not only to those upon whom it is imposed, but also to those imposing it. Wed. 1-21-48

The disproportionate homicide rate among Louisville Negroes reflects the unfavorable economic, educational, recreational and social conditions under which Louisville Negroes are forced to live. Mr. Wallace's view is seemingly so obstructed by prejudice that he fails to see the adverse conditions surrounding the Negro that are conducive to delinquency and crime and, detrimental to the welfare of the community as a whole. Doubtless he bows to the dictates of the caste system, which bids for "accommodation" of "safe" Negro leaders to help in controlling the Negro group in order to maintain the status quo, or he could not feel that Negroes who protest against segregation and racial discrimination are not using their time and talents toward the building of a better Negro race.

Segregation and racial discrimination keep the Negro low in standards of living, health, education, morals and manners, and this in turn gives support to prejudice against him. The sooner the Negro fully realizes this and refuses to accept "accommodation" leaders and determines to be satisfied with nothing less than first-class citizenship, the sooner his homicide rate will drop and the building of a better Negro race, and also a better white race, will be in progress. Courier-Journal Amelia B. Ray.

Louisville.

Negroes Lay Crime Rate To Politicians

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Ropke's Help Requested Against Gaming Spots

Thurs 4-7-48

"White politicians" are largely to blame for the high rate of crime among Negroes, a group of Negro leaders yesterday told Frank A. Ropke, Commonwealth's attorney.

Headed by James A. Crumlin, president of the Louisville branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the group appeared before Ropke to ask his help in reducing crime among Negroes.

Homicides Cited.

Politicians of both parties "draw aid and support from Negroes of the underworld and for that reason are glad to do them favors," Crumlin charged. He added that the decent and respectable Negroes were beginning to object and are asking that action be taken. Thurs 4-1-48

Citing the 16 Negro homicides here this year, 15 in the city and one in the county, Crumlin asked that heavier penalties be given in homicide cases.

Crumlin said that many Negroes feel that if they kill another Negro they will receive only a two-year sentence.

Antigambling Action Urged.

"And if they get a white man to speak for them—and the politicians are glad to speak—they may get off with no punishment," Crumlin added.

The group also asked that action be taken to close Negro gambling centers. Crumlin said "these places breed crime," but are tolerated by politicians "because the Negro gamblers can get votes for them." Thurs

The Commonwealth's attorney's office is willing to co-operate and is doing all it can, Ropke told the committee. The length of a sentence is set by juries, he pointed out. 4-1-48

2 Meetings Set.

The Courier-Journal

Any groups of individuals who will produce proof of extensive gambling at any certain place may be sure that his office "will proceed as the evidence justifies," Ropke said.

A mass meeting of Negroes protesting the crime wave will be held at 8 p.m. Tuesday at Phyllis Wheatley branch of the Y.W.C.A. It is sponsored by the Committee of 15, organizations of Negroes. Louisville, Ky.

Another mass meeting will be held by the local branch of N.A.A.C.P. at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at Broadway Temple A.M.E. Zion Church. The public is invited. Thurs 4-1-48

13 1948

Kidnapping

She Says He Kidnaped Her

(13)

Miss Irene Papp (left), 23-year-old blonde daughter of a hotel owner in McKeesport, Pa., has told police that Wilfred Jenkins (right), 23, forced her into her car and took her on a three-day ride, ending in Brooklyn, N.Y., where she states she was held prisoner. She says that Jenkins applied an ether-soaked bandage to her face, rendering her unconscious. She weighs 200 lbs., Jenkins 155 lbs. He is reported to have admitted kidnaping Miss Papp to force her father to drop a perjury charge against him.

Youth, 23, Found With 200-Lb. Blonde 'Wife'

The Afro American

Sat 3-20-48

Baltimore, Md

NEW YORK—Wilford Jenkins, 23, was arraigned on a fugitive charge here Saturday, following his arrest in Brooklyn on Friday upon complaint of Irene Papp, 22, white, daughter of Andrew Papp, owner of the McKeesport (Pa.) Hotel—whom Jenkins claimed he married—that he kidnapped her.

BULLETIN

NEW YORK—Wilfred Jenkins, charged with kidnaping a 22-year-old white woman from McKeesport, Pa., on Monday waived extradition and was returned there to face charges of kidnaping and grand larceny.

Sat 3-20-48

Jenkins was picked up by police who found the woman's parked car in Brooklyn with two brothers, Stephen and Henry Brown, colored, in it. Neither had a registration for the car, but led police to their home where they found Jenkins and the woman.

Sat 3-20-48

Police described the young woman as being 5 feet, 2 inches tall and weighs 200 pounds. Jenkins is tall and slender, weighing about 155 pounds.

Perjury Charge Blamed

Patrick Kenny, assistant chief police inspector, said Jenkins admitted kidnapping the woman to force her father to drop a perjury charge against him in McKeesport.

Sat 3-20-48

From the joint accounts given by Jenkins and the hotel owner's daughter, police learned that:

A partnership between the woman's brother, Joseph, and Jenkins was dissolved last May. A short time later, Jenkins appeared at the marriage license bureau in McKeesport with a white woman and obtained a license in the name of Irene Papp.

Marriage Story Doubted

Jenkins visited the hotel owner and told him that he and his daughter were married and that he could produce a license to prove it. The father refused to believe Jenkins' story and a perjury charge was placed against him.

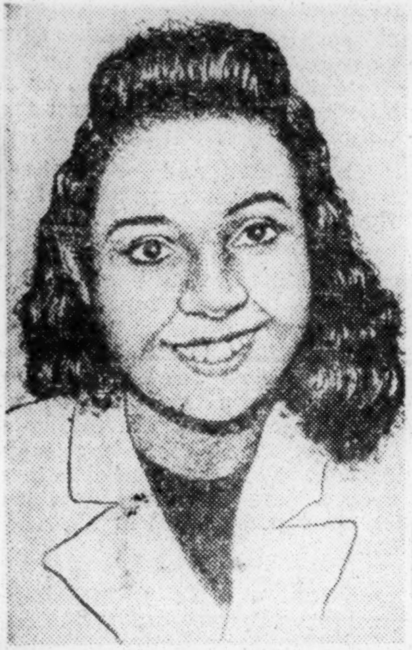
The woman said that, apart from the fact that Jenkins forced her into her car and took her on a 3-day ride to Pittsburgh, Wilmington, Del., Philadelphia and Brooklyn, she had not "otherwise been molested."

Sat 3-20-48

She told police that she was kept under the influence of an anesthetic most of the time during the ride from McKesport to Brooklyn.

She managed to telephone a friend in McKeesport last Thursday night after which the local police was alerted.

Sketch Aids Hunt



POLICE DRAWING OF SUSPECT
Missing with baby girl

Nationwide Search On for Kidnaper

Detroit Free Press
Detroit Mich
Wed 12-1-48

Copies of a sketch by Patrolman Mark Graver, police artist, are being circulated throughout the nation in the hunt for a woman who kidnaped a 3-week-old baby girl from her parents' home Nov. 4.

Graver made the sketch from a description of the woman given by the parents and a taxicab driver."

* * *

THE KIDNAPER was traced to the vicinity of Riopelle and Hale where she left a cab she had engaged after leaving the home where she took the baby.

The woman posed as a social worker and told the parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Caldwell, of 686 E. Vernor, she was taking the child to a hospital for an examination.

She had visited the family on a number of occasions and had helped make arrangements for the birth of the child, Anne Elizabeth.

A house-to-house check by police, covering an area of about two square miles, has failed to produce a single clew.

Wed 12-1-48

* * *

THE KIDNAPER gave her name as "Mrs. Gray" and said she lived at 689 Campbell, Dearborn. There is no such address.

The woman is described as a light-skinned Negro, about 30 years old. She is five feet, five inches tall and weighs about 140 pounds.

High School Senior Kidnapped And Beaten
Detectives Seek Clues In Night Kidnapping

The Pontiac Commentator

By J. Norris Ford

(13) Pontiac, Mich

Sunday night between 11 and 12 p.m. one of Pontiac's most bold and brutal crimes took place, the kidnapping and beating of Earl O'Brien, a senior at Pontiac High school.

According to O'Brien, when I visited him at St. Joseph Mercy hospital, he was walking on Norton avenue after having visited a store at Norton and West Huron when a car stopped and the occupants inquired the location of Hamilton Court. When he said he lived there he was offered a lift.

Sat. 5-15-48

As he attempted to enter the back seat one of the occupants got out of the front seat, shoved him to the floor of the car and kept him there face down by pinning his arms behind his back.

The trio drove to a spot off Telegraph road near Square Lake. Here he was taken out of the car, knocked down by a blow to his chin, beaten and cut with a strap and his hair cut close to his scalp on the left side with what he believes to have been a butcher knife. When one of the kidnappers relaxed his hold O'Brien broke away and ran up a hill. After seeing he was not being followed by the trio, he then made his way to Telegraph road where he was picked up by Earl Becker, 215 South Gainsborough, Royal Oak.

O'Brien states that while the trio was beating him up one of them kept calling him "nigger lover."

He maintains he does not know who his abducters were, but it might have something to do with his activity in the "Wallace for President" organization or his organizing of the local Progressive Equalist party, even though no record of any threat having been made against him for his political activities has been found by investigators.

At this writing detectives are busy seeking clues to the identity of the three young men, and following up tips as to the purpose of the abduction and beating.

Sat. 5-15-48

Meanwhile a reward of $2,000 for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the persons who kidnapped and flogged 18 year old Carl O'Brien Sunday night has been posted by the Pontiac City commission.

The commission responded unanimously after a group of citizens visited the meeting Tuesday night requesting the city government to take action.

The group, referring to themselves as a citizen's committee interested in civil liberties and led by James Frazier requested that the commission:

1. Post a reward for the capture of the persons who flogged O'Brien;
2. Order the Pontiac Police department to make the capture of these persons their number one job; and
3. Help obtain the Pontiac High school auditorium for a mass meeting to discuss the attack upon the boy.

The citizen's group, acting on the idea that young O'Brien was beaten by persons objecting to his political activities in the Wallace for President movement or his interest in the Progressive Equalists, a student group, protested the flogging as a violation of the boy's civil rights.

They met at the Y. M. C. A. before attending the commission meeting and prepared a resolution condemning the attack on O'Brien. The resolution follows:

"We, the members of a citizen's committee interested in civil liberties condemn the cowardly beating of Carl O'Brien, prominent Pontiac High school student as being identical with many to suppress the democratic rights of labor and minority groups which paved the way for Hitler's rise to power and World War II.

"We further condemn such action as being identical with attempts to obstruct the formation of our labor unions and attempts to intimidate leaders of labor as recently exemplified in the shooting of Walter Reuther, president of the UAW-CIO.

"We condemn this action as an attempt to institute political thought control through violence.

"We join with labor unions, civic, fraternal and church organizations in urging all public officials and other people in this community to wipe out such un-

American activities in order that we may all live in peace and security and enjoy the civil rights to which we are entitled."

O'Brien was active in the Progressive Equalist party, made up of a small group of high school students. The members had been reprimanded by school authorities for passing out literature in the school.

The literature was in the form of a leaflet with the title of the party and the following: "Do you Want: Democracy in industry; equalized free education: non-segregation; complete equality of economic, political and social opportunity; complete insurance at cost; plus perpetuation of our present democratic offered by the city commission, principles?"

In addition to the cash award Frazier said Tuesday night that a businessman had offered to donate a lot on Montcalm avenue as part of the reward for apprehension of the guilty parties.

Carl is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ward O'Brien and resides at 75 Hamilton Court.

Negroes Held For Possessing Marijuana

The Record 6-14-48
Columbia S. C.

ROANOKE RAPIDS, N. C., Jun 14—(UP)—Eleven members of an all-Negro orchestra from Hagerstown, Md., faced hearing before United States commissioner W. S Swain at Rocky Mount, N. C., on charges of possessing illegally nearly a pound and a half of marijuana.

Chief of police T. J. Davis said the weed was found hidden in a bus carrying Danny Long's band, in the car of one musician and in the booking agent's brief case. 6-14-48

Police were tipped to look for the marijuana by a band member, Franklin Jones, who told officers about it when another musician charged him with starting a fight.

The arrested musicians were listed as Jones, of Ocefield, Ga., Horace Edwards of New York City, Earl Warren of New York City, Danny Long of Winchester, Va., Sylvester Sanders of Salisbury, N. C., Rhoba Scales of Winston-Salem, N. C., Johnnie Carr of Philadelphia, Richard S. Clark of Roanoke, Va., Daniel C. Moore of Washington, John Locklayer of Roanoke, Va., and William Graham of New York City.

Arrest Woman On Narcotic Charge

Amsterdam News
New York N.Y.
5-22-48

Acting on a tip, police from the West 54th Street station arrested Audrey L. Johnson, 24, of 347 W. 59th St., Thursday night, on a charge of illegally possessing 20 "reefer" cigarettes and sufficient raw marijuana to make about 100 more.

Sat. 5-22-48

Miss Johnson told police she was employed as a cashier on the BMT subway. According to police the information they received before they raided the woman's apartment said that her home was being used for dispensing "reefers." The woman was arraigned in Felony Court Friday morning.

Police Arrest Ne[illegible]es On Narcotic Charge

NEW ORLEANS—(AP)—Federal agents said Tuesday they are holding three Negroes who were arrested with narcotics in their possession soon after they drove into town from New York.

A narcotic agent said the three were picked up at a New Orleans address by police and Federal agents who spotted their car Monday on a tip from New York.

A preliminary hearing before U. S. Commissioner R. H. Carter is scheduled Wednesday for the trio, identified as Antoine Anderson, alias "Tiny Man," 51, and Helen Scott, alias "Flavor," 39, and Johnny Jones, 24.

Agents said they had in their possession 23 capsules of cocaine and heroin, an ounce of pure heroin and a half ounce of cocaine.

As Singer Was Taken Into Custody

The Afro-American

Glamorous Eleanor (Jean) Parks, 24, bandleader and singer, is shown as she was taken into custody by the FBI in New York last week. She was released under $500 bail on narcotic charges. She vigorously denied knowing anything about the opium found in her apartment.

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rop Charges Against June Eckstine

The Defender
Sat 5-15-48
Chicago Ill

NORRISTOWN, Pa.—Charges against pretty June Eckstein, wife of top crooner Billy Eckstein were dropped by Judge George C. Corson of the Montgomery County Superior court Monday. She was arrested in 1947 on charges of enticing a minor girl to use narcotics.

The minor, Florence Johnson, told authorities she had visited with Mrs. Eckstein during the Christmas holidays of 1946. Legal action was postponed last year when Miss Johnson went to the hospital for treatment.

Mrs. Eckstein was accused of having enticed her to perform immoral acts. This brought an immorality charge which was dismissed finally after 16 months.

Dope Addicts Use Fountain Pen as Hypodermic Needle

The Guide
Sat. 4-24-48

Many Contraband Devices Now In Custody of Narcotic Hospital

Norfolk Va

LEXINGTON, KY. — How would you like to take a hypodermic injection with a toothbrush, a fountain pen, an automatic pencil or an eyedropper?

These improvised syringes are among the contraband devices now in custody of the narcotic hospital, operated by the U. S. public health service. They were surrendered by addicts entering the institution for cure.

A three-shelved cabinet contains hypodermic equipment ranging from ordinary drug store syringes to the roughest of homemade instruments designed to inject dope into the body. Included are elaborate kits holding syringes, spare needles and the "medicine" itself.

A prominent place in the display is commanded by what appears to be a simple wooden block. Manipulations reveal secret compartments for carrying syringe, needles and dope.

The hand-made syringes include one hollowed out of the tapering end of a toothbrush handle, connected at one end with an ordinary needle and at the other with an eyedropper bulb. An automatic pencil point became the needle of another after a vein had been opened to admit its entry. A pen point and rubber sac was used in the same way.

Sat 4-24-48

The dsiplay also includes examples of methods used in extremely rare cases to smuggle narcotics into the hospital. An alert guard detected a shoe containing a small tin box which was concealed in a hollowed-out heel. A vial of morphine hidden in a tube of toothpaste also was detected. One outsider attempted to mail morphine in a valentine to a prisoner-patient.

An amazingly accurate set of balance scales, handmade from bamboo and carried in a banjolike bamboo case, was used to measure morphine doses before it was confiscated.

Narcotic agents have added to the exhibit with opium pipes and an opium lamp on which the dope was cooked before smoking.

Miami Newsboy Trapped In Dope Smuggle

Journal Guide
Sat 4-17-48
Norfolk Va

TAMPA, Fla.—(ANP) — The spotting of a 15-year-old newsboy used as a decoy in a dope racket led to the capture and conviction of three narcotics peddlers here last week.

Angelo Gonzales and Arthur Dace were sentenced to five years each, and Lurther "Larry" Dace was sentenced to a year and a day. Scipio Grant, used as a carrier, was released, and the boy, Edimen Taylor, was turned over to probation officers.

HAD TWO PACKAGES

When young Taylor was spotted by narcotics agents, he was caught with a 24-ounce package of drugs strapped to his leg and another smaller one strapped to his stomach.

Grant, a stevedore, had been assigned by the smugglers the job of boarding ship and taking the drugs to New York. Grant told police that he had received $125 for each of three trips he had made for the group, but he did not know what the package he carried contained.

Sat 4-17-48

FAILED TO SHOW

On the day that the agents captured the smugglers, they had called the boy up to the boat when Gonzales failed to show up. Police followed him after he had stayed on the boat for an hour and came out with Gonzales and Arthur Dace. After following the group, agents arrested them and took them to the customs house.

The boy said he did not know what the packages contained. If the drugs had reached New York the smugglers would have had $36,000 for themselves.

FOUR ARE SENTENCED ON FEDERAL CHARGES

Times-Picayune
New Orleans
Thurs. 6-10-48

Four men who pleaded guilty to federal violations were given prison terms when arraigned Wednesday before Federal District Judge Herbert W. Christenberry. They are Donald Ferguson, a citizen of Guatemala, 60 days for illegal entry into the United States; Major Dorsey, Negro, 18 months for forging a government check for $110; Albert Thornton, Negro, 521 Josephine, 16 months for possession of marihuana, and Mike Porkay, 2511 S. Liberty, three years for possession of marihuana.

Rule Negro Held Illegally.

In a case from Lexington, Appellate Court ruled that Lewis J. [illegible], a Chicago Negro, was illegally committed to jail after leaving the U. S. Public Health Service Hospital near Lexington.

The record showed that McGrew, a World War II veteran, went to Lexington last February to be cured of the use of narcotics.

Wed 11-10-48

He was informed the hospital was crowded and the only way he could get in would be by a court order declaring him an addict. He was taken by Government agents before a magistrate who sentenced him to a year in jail, and then probated him to the hospital to stay until cured. McGrew said he declared himself a narcotic addict in order to be admitted to the hospital.

Lexington, Ky.

Fayette Decision Reversed

McGrew testified he attempted to leave the hospital last June and that Government agents seized him and took him before the Lexington police judge. The latter revoked McGrew's probation and sent him to jail to serve the remainder of his one-year term, less the time he spent in the hospital.

The Appellate Court declared the police judge could not revoke the probation granted by the magistrate. Therefore, the court said, McGrew was held illegally in jail. The Appellate ruling reversed Fayette Circuit Court which had denied McGrew's petition for release.

BLOND GIVES DETAILS OF FATAL DOPE SPREE

(13)

(13)

A 23-year-old blond model and confessed former dope user told in Recorder's court how her girl friend died during a narcotics spree in a strange apartment.

~~The Detroit P~~

She is Sharon Austin, of 13391 Braile, a principal witness in the trial of four Negroes charged with involuntary manslaughter in the death last Feb. 21 of Irene Ash, of 2010 Webb.

Fri 8-20-48

The defendants are accused of contributing to Miss Ash's death by supplying heroin which the two girls took in injections at the apartment of James Mayfield, another Negro, of 2975 E. Grand Blvd.

Detroit, Mich.

ON TRIAL are Russell Colvin, 34, of 86 E. Forest; Sam Burton, 42, of 211 Theodore; Harry Long, 58, of 267 Alfred, and Richard Johnson, 50, of 219 Winder.

Mayfield is a witness.

Miss Ash's nude body was found sprawled on the bed by medical examiners called by a physician.

Her death was attributed to resporatory paralysis caused by the powerful drug. She had been raped, examiners said.

Fri 8-20-48

MISS AUSTIN, a Chicago modeling school student, related before Judge John J. Maher that she had accompanied Miss Ash and Colvin to the strange apartment for a narcotics "jag".

She said she had been introducted to drugs by Miss Ash, whom she called a confirmed addict. Both girls had become acquainted with colvin at "jam sessions," she said.

At the apartment, the pretty model related, Colvin gave each girl an injection of a mild drug that failed to produce results.

He left to procure a supply of heroin, she said, while the girls went into the neighborhood and borrowed $24 to pay for it "through a hard-luch story".

Fri 8-20-48

"The heroin knocked Irene out," Miss Austin said.

Police who questioned Miss Austin the next day said she still was hazy from narcotics. Miss Austin claims to have been cured since then.

The Detroit Press

Assistant Prosecutor Arnold Monash charged that Burton, Long and Johnson helped Colvin procure the fatal narcotic and are equally responsible in Miss Ash's death.

~~Fri 8-20-48~~

He termed the legal aspects of the case among the most unusual in Michigan criminal history.

Detroit, Mich.

13 1948

New York

Daily World

[illegible] 9-23-48

Atlanta, Ga.

13

Harlem "Mayor" Arrested; Refused To Show License

NEW YORK — (NNPA) — Sherman Hibbitts, unofficial "Mayor" of Harlem, was arrested here last Friday night on a disorderly conduct charge and summond to appear in Magistrate's Court on Monday.

According to police, Hibbitts refused to show his driver's license when his automobile was found parked in a restricted area. Instead, he displayed his "Mayor" of Harlem badge.

He was arrested and taken to the 123d Street Precinct where he again refused to show his license, police said. He was not held but a summons was issued for his appearance in court.

Hibbitts was elected "Mayor" of Harlem last month. He owns a chain of restaurants here.

JANITOR GETS PROBATION AFTER RETURN OF MONEY

(13)

Crime

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Wed-12-22-48

GREENSBORO, N. C.—(ANP)—Because of his good reputation, a bank janitor who stole $6,500 from the bank and had returned nearly all of it before being caught was given a fine of $540 and a probationary sentence of three years in the U. S. District court here last week.

The janitor Romaine Albea, was also placed under a suspended sentence of a year and a day at the reformatory in Petersburg, Va. He worked at the High Point Savings and Trust company of High Point.

Albea originally took the money June 13 and 14 from a cash box a clerk had left out by mistake. He was picked up by the FBI after he had passed one of the missing bills to a doctor in High Point. When caught, he quickly admitted he had taken the money.

Wed-12-22-48

However, in the meantime Albea had returned all the mony to the bank except $853 he had used to pay bills. He repaid the other money by taking out all his savings and also getting a loan of $500 on his home.

Wed-12-22-48

Among the people vouching for the janitor's character in the trial were the mayor of High Point and other citizens in letters as well as bank officials and others in testimony at the trial. Judge Hayes said that Albea's good reputation had saved him.

Does Education Pay?

Is education worthwhile? Does it pay dividends in virtue and in respect for the laws of organized society? Walter Caver, a prisoner in the penitentiary, has prepared and forwarded to the Black Dispatch an exhaustive study covering this subject.

Ok Black Dispatch

Caver's study presents some very alarming facts. It proves that the average Negro who goes to the penitentiary in Oklahoma is in actuality a juvenile. He set the average at 23 years. It means there must be an improvement step-up in home life and recreational opportunity if this ugly picture is to be corrected.

Sat 4-17-48

Records in Oklahoma show that the majority of the Negroes in this state have in the past two decades moved to urban centers. The new environment of the cities, together with the almost total lack of wholesome recreational facilities where youth may spend its leisure hours, finds it final summary in the walls of Granite and McAlester.

The survey also shows, across a ten-year study, five per cent of the Negro prisoners at McAlester are illiterates; 65 per cent are third or fourth graders; 19 per cent finished grammar school, one year or more; 3.7 per cent finished high school and three per cent spent one year or more in college. These very illuminating figures should prove conclusively that if you want your son or daughter to secure that which will be the best shield against evil and convert him into a loyal, upstanding citizen of integrity and honor, you should see to it that your offspring secures a college education. By all means get him past that alarming third and fourth grade classification.

Oklahoma City Okla.

Unquestionably, there is a tremendous challenge standing before the club women of the state, our Urban leagues and our Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. branches. These are the agencies having much to do with programs relating to education, recreation and finally work opportunities where inspiration for clean living is provided. There follows Mr. Caver's report that should be read and carefully studied by leaders in every walk of life, in the home and in the church:

"Ten years ago there were 4,000 prisoners confined in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. Of this number 1,000 were Negroes. Today there are 2,000 prisoners, of which 423 are Negroes.

"Over a period of ten years, 12,000 prisoners were admitted to the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. Of this number 4,000 were Negroes. The average age of these Negro prisoners was 23 years. Inasmuch as they came from every station and walk of life, they provided a vast field for study unlimited to the extreme.

"After entrance into prison, every man was taken to the Test and Research Department of the prison school where he was given Otis Self-Administering Tests for Mental Ability, and the Stanford Tests for Achievement. Anyone familiar with these tests knows what they are supposed to reveal about the person who takes them. It is the revelation of very interesting facts by these tests that prompts me to ask the questions: Who is to blame for the meager education possessed by these men? It is the parents, the teachers or the prisoners themselves?

"There are men in every penitentiary, of course, who cannot read and write. There are men in this prison who can neither read a newspaper nor write a simple letter home to their relatives and friends—and say nothing of their figuring their own simple accounts. Moreover, it is true that most of these underprivileged men have little or no knowledge of anything civic; they do not know ,and are not familiar with fundamentals of government. They think of the law as having nothing further to do with them than to convict them of crime. Most of these uneducated prisoners were apt to be ashamed of a meager education and thus they made claim of being well educated.

"Statistics of the Test and Research Department show the following educational qualification of the prisoners. I ask, therefore, that you give these figures due consideration, and remember they were compiled not only from statements of the prisoners upon entering prison, but also from the Stanford Tests for Achievement.

Sat 4-17-48

"Out of the 4,000 Negro prisoners who were committed to this institution during a period of ten years, 5 per cent were illiterate; 65 per cent were third and fourth graders; 19 per cent finished grammar school; 7 per cent attended high school one year or more; 3.7 per cent finished high school, and .3 per cent spent one year or more in college. In the occupational classification the larger per cent of these prisoners were classed as common laborers, chauffeurs and cooks. But there can be no surety of accuracy, for this is volunteer information. However, from the educational data, you are enabled to estimate the vocational possibilities of those men, as far as verbal or scholastic intelligence is concerned.

"These figures are significant in that they point out that the majority of admissions to the penitentiary claimed only grammar school education. In Oklahoma more men with meager schooling or no education at all, are convicted of crimes than are men with high school or college training. It is the uneducated who comprise that group of men convicted of crimes which can be committed without intricate planning; the petty crimes, the crimes forced by poverty, and sadly enough, crimes concerning sex, of which they have little knowledge. All too often these men with meager learning will produce delinquents who will use the most brutal of methods, horrible in their every phase.

"What has been said is just one side of the picture. The other side is the data showing the percentage of men who, following their release, revert to crime and are returned to prison either in Oklahoma or some other state.

"Of the 70 per cent of those men who possessed less than an eighth grade education, 68.8 per cent were recidivists or repeaters who had served prison sentences in Granite Reformatory as well as in prisons in other states before coming to McAlester. Whereas, 2 per cent of the 7 per cent who attended high school were recidivists. Only two men of the 3. per cent who had one year or more of college education were recidivists. These two men were classed as victims of dipsomania—an uncontrollable craving for alcohol.

Sat 4-17-48

"Is there anything that can be done to make good citizens of the wayward youths who are swelling Oklahoma's prison population? If so, what institution will assume the responsibility: the home, the church or society in general? I believe the home and the school must accept the responsibility with the church as a spiritual advisor. It is not a responsibility of the prison although the prison school assumes responsibility of helping those prisoners who sincerely wish to help themselves.

"Following their entrance to prison, every man is faced with situations which force him to take inventory of the past and to decide which road he will follow toward the future. It is at this point most prisoners plan to build; to retrieve the respect and privilege of society. Here is where the prison school comes in to help the prisoners to help themselves through a program of re-education for right and social thinking. This is a rather difficult undertaking for a prison school—perhaps more unusual than it is difficult ,because, (a) most of the men are almost confirmed in their way of thinking, (b) prison school attendance is not compulsory and there are too many other diversions with more allure than education offers to most prisoners. Therefore, the home and the school must exercise a greater influence over youths through education, curbing their desires and directing their energy into the proper channels if, from the youths of today, leaders of tomorrow would come. Otherwise, the inordinate desire for amusement and pleasure, which is so prevalent among youths today, will continue to blind them to the best things in life and expose them to the worst temptations."

Norfolk Still Safest City In Entire Nation

Journal + Guide

Norfolk, Va.

NORFOLK—For the tenth consecutive month Norfolk has held the enviable position of the safest city in this country. That is one is safe in this city so far as accidents and deaths from traffic mishaps are concerned. The survey results do not cover Norfolk's high death toll from knife and switch blade and gun battles.

Sat. 1-3-48

He urged extreme caution on the part of pedestrians and motorists to prevent accidents, save lives, and maintain Norfolk's safety record.

The survey of the American Automobile Association discloses that Norfolk has the lowest traffic accident death rate per 100,000 persons among the cities in the country with populations greater than 200,000.

This city's rating through October was 5.7 per 100,000. Newark, N. J. and Washington, D. C. tied for second place with a rating of 7.5. Providence, R. I. scored 7.6.

Norfolk dropped from third place in September to fourth place in October in the number of deaths per 10,000 cars registered with a rating of 3.3. Cities heading the list were Oklahoma City, Olka., 2.5; Rochester, N. Y., 2.8; and Seattle, Wash., 3.2. Long Beach, Calif. tied Norfolk.

Sat. 1-3-48

REASON for DROP

G. Leslie Hall, president of the Tidewater Automobile Association, said the drop probably was due to the large number of unregistered cars in the city operated by Navy personnel and transients.

Negro Draws 18-Year Term

Advertiser

Card Denies Stabbing Operator Of Bus January 25

Montgomery Ala

Marvin Card, Negro, who was convicted by a Circuit Court jury for assault with intent to murder in the stabbing of a City Bus Lines driver, was sentenced by Judge Eugene Carter to 18 years in the penitentiary.

At the same time, Friday, afternoon, Judge Carter sentenced 18 others, 12 of whom had been found guilty of grand larceny.

Card was convicted in a trial Friday morning for the stabbing of Montgomery City Bus Lines Driver Walter L. McDonald on the night of Jan. 25.

Solicitor Temple Seibels contended that the Negro stabbed McDonald while the bus was stopped at the end of the Day Street run, because the driver earlier had required Card to leave the bus when he failed to move back into the colored section. Sat 2-21-48

Appearing in his own defense, Card testified that he left the bus at the Court Square stop when asked to and had not boarded it again. He claimed that he had gone to visit a friend, who testified that Card had been at his house between 8 and 9 p.m.

All Selma On Alert After Six Women Frightened By Negro

The News

Selma Ala

SELMA, Ala., Aug. 17—Police Chief Edward Mullen warned Selma residents to keep on the alert for a Negro man, believed demented, after six women residents reported they had been frightened by the intruder over the week-end.

One of the victims, Mrs. Thelma Manning, was in King Memorial Hospital suffering shock.

SHE TOLD POLICE she was awakened Sunday morning to find the Negro in her bedroom. She said she screamed, rousing her family and neighbors. The intruder meanwhile climbed out a second-story window and slid down a drain pipe.

A second victim, Mrs. J. M. McLaughlin, said she awoke to find a Negro man holding his hand over her mouth. In the ensuing struggle she said, the intruder bit her on the shoulder and then fled from the house.

Mrs. Roy R. Watkins, who lives on Jefferson Davis Avenue, told police, she awoke to find a Negro man in her bedroom. She said she began screaming and the man fled.

* * *

MRS. ERLINE SCHRODER reported a Negro man was frightened away from her home after attempting to enter by standing on a flower pot near a window.

Barking dogs frightened an intruder believed to be the same man, police said, from the home of W. T. Nelson.

Mrs. Frank Austin, who lives near the Nelson home, told police she heard a noise at her back door. She said she went to investigate and found a Negro man attempting to force open the screen door. The man fled when she called for help, she told police.

Three Negroes Report Beating By Persons Wearing Uniforms

TALLADEGA, Ala., Dec. 11 — Three Talladega Negroes have filed a complaint with state officials that their civil rights have been violated, W. L. Allen, special agent for the State Bureau of Investigation and Identification, said Saturday.

He said George Franklin, Robert Jones and Noble Reynolds contend that on the night of Nov. 16 they were stopped and assaulted on Highway 78 about one mile east of Leeds by persons who claimed to be police officers.

* * *

Attackers Unidentified

ALLEN SAID THE Negroes claimed that without provocation or excuse Franklin and Jones were beaten by the trio which stopped them. He said none of the Negroes could identify or describe the assailants other than to say that two of them wore what appeared to be police uniforms and caps.

Allen added that none of the Negroes was able to give a badge number or an automobile license number of the car in which the assailants rode.

Police Chief Earl Erwin, of Leeds, said an exhaustive study of the incident had been made. He added that he was "thoroughly satisfied" that no members of the Leeds Police Department were involved.

Allen said the state bureau is continuing its investigation and he had hopes for an early conclusion of the case.

Beautician Robbed, Attacked; 2 Jailed

Pittsburg Courier

Pittsburg Pa.

Sat-11-27-48

(Special to The Courier)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Charged with attacking and robbing Mrs. Mattie Lee Daniels, 27, attractive local beautician, two young Dixiecrats were being held without bond in county jail here last week.

The two white youths, Herschel Murphree and Euell Dollar, who gave their ages as seventeen, were arrested and jailed Tuesday of last week. Police said they found articles of clothing in the boys' possession, which were later identified by the victim as belonging to her.

TELLS OF ATTACK

Interviewed as she lay in bed with a puffed face, battered eyes, and her body writhing in pain from blows in the stomach, Mrs. Daniels told the gruesome story of her attack. Sat 11-27-48

"I was running to catch No. 22 trolley. It was just about dusk. Two men grabbed me, dragged me into a vacant lot and made me put my hands up."

SCORES CIVIL RIGHTS

"Truman is trying to put you n——rs over white people," Mrs. Daniels said one of her attackers bellowed. "I'll fix you. I ought to kill you," she said he threatened.

Mrs. Daniels then related how she was kicked in the side and stomach and hit in the eyes, on the jaw and in the mouth.

While the two white youths are being held, Detective-Lieutenant C. L. Pierce announced that detectives have been assigned to investigate Mrs. Daniels' charges.

Sat-11-27-48

MRS. MATTIE LEE DANIELS

... kicked in side and stomach, punched in eyes

Calls To Collect Debt, But Is Shot Twice

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Dec. 6—An early morning call to collect a debt resulted in Jack J. Wheat, about 40, being taken to a local hospital with two serious gunshot wounds.

Police Sgt. J. L. Junkins said Wheat, a loan company representative, was shot this morning when he called on Alfred Thomas, Negro, to collect the debt.

"He was met at the door by Thomas," Junkins said. "The Negro was carrying a shotgun and hit Wheat twice, above the heart and just below the left collarbone."

He said that Wheat was in "serious condition."

"The Negro has not yet been caught," he added.

Negro Claims White Men Wounded Him

The News

Birmingham Ala.

James Williams, Negro, 2417 Second Avenue, South, told police he was shot at by two white men from an automobile last night.

Williams said a light blue car slowed down at he walked along at South 24th Street and Second Avenue. The man, who was not driving, he told Officers H. W. Schaffner and J. R. Carroll, fired at him six times with a pistol.

Williams was struck by one bullet. He was treated at Hillman Hospital for a flesh wound of the arm.

Negro Cripple Cut; White Trio Held

The Advertiser

CLAYTON, ALA.— (AP) —An aging, crippled Negro, who couldn't run, was slashed with a knife, near here, Saturday night, and three white men were charged a short while later with assault.

Barbour County Sheriff M. J. Williams told the story Monday. He said the white men were released on bond of $500 after being charged with assault with intent to murder.

They were booked as Lehman Maker, 23; Lloyd Clark, 25; and Early Williams, 21; all living near Louisville, Ala., where the knifing occurred.

Baker and Clark already were facing burglary charges in the theft of a slot machine from a Louisville veterans' club about two months ago and was out on bond the sheriff gave this account of the slashing:

Mose Smith, about 60 and another Negro, were walking along a street when the three white men jumped from the car.

Smith's companion ran but the old Negro, still limping on two crippled legs broken when a tree fell on him recently, couldn't escape. The white man cut him across the face, leaving a gash several inches long He was treated by a doctor.

The sheriff said Smith and the other two white men named Clark as the one who weilded the knife.

WHITE YOUTHS BATTLE NEGROES AT AUGUSTA

The Commercial Appeal

13

High School Student Stabbed —10 Are Held In Jail

Sun. 7-25-48

Special to The Commercial Appeal

AUGUSTA, Ark., July 24. — A downtown fight between a group of white youths and a group of negro men led to the critical stabbing of an Augusta High School student and the arrest of 10 negroes Friday night.

The stabbing victim, Joe Billy Peebles, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Peebles of near Augusta, was in a serious condition at Porter Rogers Hospital in Searcy. His lung and kidney were pierced by a knife.

Sheriff Jess Pendergist said he had been unable to learn the causes underlying the fight, which involved six white youths between the ages of 12 and 17 and 10 negroes between 24 and 40.

The sheriff said one of the white boys told him he had asked a negro on the street for a match. The negro said he had no match but would give him a light. Whereupon, the sheriff quoted the youth as saying, several negroes jumped from an automobile and attacked the white boys. The sheriff said he had not questioned any of the others.

Sun. 7-25-48

Feeling in Augusta was running high Saturday and all 10 negroes were held in jail pending completion of the investigation.

Sheriff Pendergist said a preliminary hearing would be held as soon as young Peeples' condition will permit.

Two St Louis Residents In Ark Incident

The Argus

Fri 11-12-48

Angered By Refusal Of Rest Room Use

St. Louis Mo.

OSCEOLA, Ark., Nov. 9—(Special) — Three soldiers from Northern cities Tuesday were fined $500 and given six-month workhouse sentences by Mayor Ben F. Butler on charges of assault to kill in connection with the beating they gave Jimmie Boss, filling station operator, here Monday.

Boss said the soldiers came to his service station and wanted to use the rest room, but they were told that be had none for Negroes.

One of the soldiers, later identified as William F. Debose, 22, of Campbell, Ohio, told Boss that there is no longer such a thing as "colored people."

Boss said the three soldiers, on furlough and en route from St. Louis to Memphis, left his station and went to their car, in which another man and girl were sitting.

The filling station man said they forced him into his station, where they hit him over the head with a can of anti-freeze. As they departed from the station, Boss told W. W. Bryant to get the license number of the car. He did, and Osceola police arrested the Soldiers at Driver, Ark.

Mayor Butler fined Debose, Louis Ford, 20, of St. Louis and Ulyss George, 30, of Toledo, Ohio, $500 each and gave them six-month workhouse sentences and fixed their bonds at $2500. Clarence Fentriss, 20, of Norfolk, Va., and Daisy Ford of St. Louis were found not guilty and dismissed. The defendants entered a plea of not guitly.

Negro's White Floggers Fear County's Justice

The Courier

13a

Sat 4-27-48

Pittsburgh Pa.

TEXARKANA, Ark.—(ANP)—Fearful that they could not obtain an impartial trial, six white men, charged with violating State "anti-violence" labor in the chain-whipping of a 51-year-old Negro employe of Texarkana Cotton Oil Company last year, petitioned the Miller County Circuit Court for a change of venue here Wednesday.

Victim of the chain-beating was Jordon Hawkins.

The petition, second to be made, said that Miller County residents were prejudiced against the defendants and that they could not obtain an impartial trial here. The first change of venue was granted last fall, and the case was taken to Hempstead Circuit Court at Hope. The case, however, resulted in a mistrial.

Sat 3-27-48

The six defendants are H. Lee Martin, 37; Owen Bolen, 35; Fred Thomason, 45; all United Mine Workers organizers; and Clarence Bean Jr., Dan Ryan and W. B. Jackson.

13a 1948

California

Candid rape suspect ordered held to answer

Sat 4-24-48

A rape suspect who, according to police, demonstrated a praiseworthy frankness in admitting his guilt, was arraigned in municipal court this week and ordered held to answer.

The defendant is J. Rufus Ebow, 34, of 519 E. 23rd st., who police said, told them, "I might as well admit that I was the fellow that was in the car and tried to rape that white woman."

Ebow was arrested, police stated on complaint of Mrs. Florence M. Samson, of 627 E. Gravey blvd. He was identified by Mrs. Samson and two women whose appearance on the scene halted the rape attempt.

The assault took place in Mrs. Samson's car, which was parked at 7th and Olive Thursday morning of last week. Mrs. Samson told police she works nights at 649 S. Olive, and was getting into her car at six in the morning when Ebow got in with her, choked her and attempted to assault her.

Love Letters Tell Of Family Prejudice And Woman's Fear

Tri County Bulletin

Thur 4-22-48

LOS ANGELES. — Held in jail for the fatal streetcar shooting of Mrs. Beatrice Imogene Thompson, the pretty, young white woman he considered his wife, Sylvester Black told his attorney, Everette Porter, on Monday: "I lost all reason. I shot in the heat of passion. I loved her and she loved me.

A series of letters, postmarked January 10, 1948, to March 15, 1948, allegedly written by the young woman who was then in Memphis, Tenn., tells of her deep affection for the man now charged with suspicion of murdering her.

TELLS OF BEATING

The letters reportedly also tells of a beating she received in Memphis, of the bitter opposition of her family to her union with a colored man, and of her wish never again to see her estranged husband, W. B. Thompson, 317 South Olive street.

Inquest into the death was scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 21. A hearing in the case was expected to be scheduled following the inquest.

At the county morgue, Thompson claimed the body, and reportedly told police he had been reunited with his wife on the day of the shooting after a seven-month separation. He also allegedly has filed a suit for $201,000 damges against Black, charging that he has been deprived of his wife's society, comfort, affection and earnings.

The shooting occurred late Friday night in a crowded streetcar at Broadway and Fourth street. According to the police report, Black and Mrs. Thompson boarded the "P" car at 11th street and Broadway, argued during the ride, when suddenly Black stood in the aisle, aimed a revolver at his companion and fired three shots.

Mrs. Thompson was rushed to Georgia Street Receiving Hospital, but was pronounced dead upon arrival.

Thur 4-22-48

Black reportedly told Atty Porter that shortly before the fatal incident, Mrs. Thompson had informed him that her father had come here from Arkansas and had threatened both her and him. He said, according to the attorney, that he had given her the gun a few days previously for her protection.

She was carrying the weapon in her handbag which he was holding for her after they boarded the streetcar, Porter stated. Black also reportedly said that he and Mrs. Thompson were married in Tijuana July, 1947.

SOUGHT DIVORCE

She had not, however, obtained a divorce from Thompson and it was presumably to obtain a decree and settle the question of custody of their child that she had made the trip to Memphis.

On the afternoon preceding the shooting, Black told his attorney that he and Mrs. Thompson had gone shopping and that he had purchased a dress for her at a downtown store. He said that he called for her that night after she finished work at a hotel coffee shop at 11th and Broadway.

In one of the letters, which Att'y. Porter claims were written by Mrs. Thompson and which were signed "Jean," the writer tells of a threat from her father. The postmark on the envelope was February 9, 1948, Memphis.

THREAT OF KILLING

The letter says: "You see they know about me and you. When I say they, I mean the most of my people. My father met me yesterday. He first called and I wouldn't see him, so he came to the bus station. He argued with me until I got mad and then he tried to beat me and a girl called the police. He left and I came home. . He told me he was going to kill me . . "

In several other letters in Att'y Porter's possession, the writer refers to an attack upon her in which she was ssertedly struck a severe blow on the face. One of these letters says:

"I was hit in the face the Monday after I talked to you on Sunday. I had a terrible argument with Tommie (apparently her estranged husband) and my brother. I started to leave without my clothes and while I was waiting for a bus some one came down the alley. It was raining hard and I didn't hear until they were behind me.

"When I turned, I caught the lick in my face. It bruised my left cheek terribly and a thick line is still on my face in the a.m., but the doctor said it would leave although I believe Tommie or my brother did it to keep me from returning . . . .

LETTERS WITHHELD

"Darling write me at the post office, general delivery, and I will pick it up Tuesdays. I am off that day and will pick it up then. If it comes to the house I'd never get it. I'm not saying anything until I get my fare back and then I'm just going to walk off . .

"Honey, I am eating soup and sandwiches until I save the money to return. Everybody knows about you and me and believe me they use it, but they don't bother me any more because I don't care."

Another of the hand-written letters, this one likewise signed "Jean" and allegedly sent in an envelope postmarked March 13, 1948, from Memphis, again refers to the beating. The letter states that "Tommie" had been there and they had been discussing custody of their child, Jerry, and continues:

Thur 4-22-48

HAD ARGUMENT

"Then is when we had the argument and my brother said he had rather see me dead than to go back to you. So you see that's why I know one of them hit me . . No, darling, I know one of them hit me . . No, darling, I know the janitor didn't do it. He had no way of knowing I had $80 on me and besides he always lights the fire around 5 a.m. and don't come back. The old fellow was a cripple and had he done it, he couldn't have gotten away before anyone could have seen him.

"The only reason he was mentioned is he was colored and he wouldn't have gotten a fair trial. My family knew I wouldn't say anything if they threatened to have him picked up.

"I didn't stay in the hospital for a busted face. It busted the inside pretty bad and I couldn't eat for some time, but my nerves were terrible."

STILL NERVOUS

In another letter allegedly written by the victim, also signed "Jean", the writer refers for a third time to the beating. "You asked me yesterday," the letter states, "why I was nervous. I have been ever since I got hit and I just can't stand for anyone to walk behind me, but I will get over it I know."

The letter continues: "Sweetheart, write me at this address . . a girl that I work with lives there and she said she would give it to me . . I haven't seen my brother since that Monday night."

In the same letter, which assertedly was sent airmail special delivery March 15, 1948, the writer speaks of the prejudice that exists in the South against Negroes. "Darling," he letter states, "I now know how mean people here can be. I didn't before but I do now. They'd do anything to a colored person . . I'll never as long as I live come back here. I won't even look in this direction."

SPEAKS OF 'TOMMIE'

A number of references are made to "Tommie" in the letters. In one the writer states she could have "sued Tommie for wife and child support. I didn't sue him because I didn't want anything to come between you and me. I wanted nothing that sounded like Tommie to be in our home."

Another letter states: "I don't intend to ever see Tommie again and if he should see us together, he'll just have to like it because I'm tired of him trying to run my life."

Thur 4-22-48

CHURCH MARRIAGE

Another letter contains a note of high hope. "Darling, let's start planning our marriage. My uncle is hurrying it (the divorce) up, but if he knew I was going to marry you, he'd kick me out . . "

And then:

"Darling, let's be married in Chicago in church. I have been looking forward to that day for a long time. After I am free I will join you in Chicago and we will plan our wedding and be married the way we wanted to."

Black, who is 34 years old, and whose address was given as 10351 Gorman avenue, Watts, attended Prairie View College, Texas for one semester. He was employed here at a poultry shop on Temple street.

Sen-1-22-48

Mrs. Thompson was 23. She was the mother of one child, Jerry. The couple reportedly had been living together until shortly before the killing, when, according to Black, they separated because of the threats allegedly made by the young woman's father.

Mistake Her For White, Thugs Beat Girl, Abduct Companion

(1.3a) The Defender Sat 8-28-48

Chicago Ill

Police here are searching for three white hoodlums and a Negro youth they forced to accompany them when they fled the lakefront after beating Miss Grace Lawrence, 25, of 4310 Evans ave., early Sunday. A fourth thug is in custody.

According to Miss Lawrence, the quartet attacked har and a neighbor she knows only as "John" because they thought she was white. Her companion is unmistakably colored. Miss Lawrenoe said she dared not think of what happened to him.

The attacker forced her companion to go with them as they fled, but one of the group was trapped on an overpass and jailed on Miss Lawrence's complaint.

Taken to Chicago Memorial Hospital for first aid, Miss Lawrence said the nurse on duty was so abusive that she refused to let her dress the wounds. At Provident Hospital six stitches were required to close it.

Sat 8-28-48

The East 43rd st. area was the scene of a brutal attack upon an inter-racial group of Catholic social workers and instructors from a settlement house two years ago.

Negro Cleric Charges Attack At Carolina Polls

~~Courier~~ Journal (13a)

Louisville Kentucky

Columbia, ~~S. C.~~ Aug. 23 (UP)—A South Carolina Negro minister today formally charged that he was clubbed, knifed and left for dead after he voted in the Democratic primary August 10 at Calhoun Falls.

Tues 8-24-48

The Rev. Archie Ware, 66, swore that two policemen stood by and looked on while he was beaten to the ground. He told the details in an affidavit filed with U. S. Attorney General Clark.

James M. Hinton, state president of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, said "the object of the affidavit, of course, is to bring criminal prosecution."

Given Right to Vote.

A Federal Court order gave Negroes the right to vote in primaries this year for the first time since Reconstruction days.

"There were two police officers near the entrance of the gymnasium (voting place) whom I recognized," he said. He listed names in his affidavit. Some two dozen other white person were standing near, the affivadi said. It named the man h termed the ringleader.

The minister said he was leaving the voting precinct when one of the men "with a squarish-looking club about 2 feet long and 2 by 2 inches" called him by name. He said four or five younger men were with the man.

"They had drawn knives," he said. As the man with the stick began trying to hit him, he said, "I begged, please don't hit me."

He said the man told him: "Damn you, I'm gonna bust your damned head open."

He said he "knew that two officers were there and I thought they would help me. I kept backing away."

He said he soon realized they did not intend to help him so "I made a quick turn and started to run." He said he was stunned from two or three blows on the head.

Tues 8-24-48

Says Knife Went to Bone.

"The young men stabbed my left thigh to the bone before I could start running again," he said, adding that "one of the men cut me with a hooked-nose pocket knife in my right side."

He said, "They thought I was dead, and walked away."

Sheriff Chester Fleming of Abbeville County said he had investigated but had taken no action because "there weren't any eyewitnesses that I could find."

The N.A.A.C.P. said photographs had been made of the minister's wounds and would be turned over to the Justice Department.

Woman Shot On Bus By Bus Driver

The Lighthouse + Informer Columbia S.C. Sun 12-19-48

MIAMI, Fla.—(ANP)—A white bus driver was held by police here last week by shooting a Negro woman on his vehicle. The driver shot Mrs. Clara McKinnon accidentally after an argument with her husband. He stated his aim was for Mr. McKinnon.

Sun 12-19-48

No Arrests Made Yet In August Beating Of Rev. Archie Ware

The Lighthouse and Informer (13a)

State and federal authorities were believed still investigating the August 10 brutal beating of the Rev. Archie Ware of Calhoun Falls because he vote in the Democratic primary.

There appeared absolutely no foundation to a rumor in the early report that arrests had been made in the case.

Columbia, S.C

So far as could be gathered the case remains in its probing phase. Chief Joel W. Townsend of the state constabulary announced after Governor J. Strom Thurmond ordered an investigation that he wasn't certain as to the length of time his part in the invesigation could be settled. His report is to be filed with Governor Thurmond who will probably announce the findings and order further action if this is warranted.

Sun 9-26-48

The state NAACP conference announced two weeks ago that it had been informed that the Department of Justice would also investigate the incident.

REV. WARE WRITES

Rev. Ware has since moved himself and family out of the state. He is also believed to have sold his home and some other property he had purchased during his 66 year life span in the county, 13 of which were lived in Calhoun Falls

The minister, who pastored four Baptist churches and was moderator of the Savannah Baptist Association, wrote The Lighthouse and Informer during the week that he hoped nobody in South Carolina became angry because he had left suddenly just before a conference he had traveled 1,000 miles to attend, making his departure when he learned the Abbeville county sheriff and possibly some other whites from the county would attend this conference.

Sun 9-26-48

"Something just went to pieces inside of me," he wrote. "I just could not face those people whom I believe neglected me and showed no interest in my sad experience. God allowed me to live through one experience. I may not be as fortunate in another."

ACCUSED CLAIMS INNOCENCE

John Black, a 78-year-old white man offered in the primary, was named by Rev. Ware as one of his assailants in a five man group. Black, it is said, claims he was ill at home at the time, an assertion which is readily disputed by several others in the town.

Rev. Ware was unable to identify the others in the group and one theory has been advanced that they were imported from the near by state of Georgia, or some other community, and are members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Thurmond Asks Investigation In Beating Case

Journal Guide (13a)

Sat 9-4-48

COLUMBIA, S. C. — Governor Thurmond ordered the State constabulalry last Saturday to investigate a 66-year-old Negro minister's charges that he was beaten and stabbed by four or five white men after voting on Tuesday, August 10 at Calhoun Falls.

The Rev. Archie Ware said he was attacked in front of the high school building where he had voted in the State's first Democratic primary.

Norfolk Va.

In his affidavit filed with U. S. Attorney General Tom Clarke, Rev. Mr. Ware lists the names of his alleged attackers, and those of two policemen who it was declared did not attempt to offer protection.

INVESTIGATION REQUESTED

James M. Hinton, State pres. of the NAACP, asked Gov. Thurmond to order an investigation, and of the Atty. General "to bring criminal prosecution." The affidavits were filed through Mr. Hinton's office.

Constabulary Chief Joel D. Townsend said he had no comment "until a full investigation can be made." He did not know how long such an investigation would take.

RR Waiter Gets 2-3 Years for Assault

The Courier
Sat 10-16-48
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga.—A sentence of from two-to-three years in prison last week was meted Lovejoy Benning, 26-year-old dining car waiter on the streamliner Man O' War, after a Fulton Superior Court jury found him guilty of assault with intent to murder, carrying a pistol and using opprebrious language towards his white superintendent and others.

Benning, who entered a plea of not guilty, claimed that Superintendent Jack Williams and a number of special agents of the Central of Georgia Railroad lured and trapped him in an office, beating him about the head and assaulting him otherwise. A motion for a new trial was filed with Trial Judge Frank A. Hooper.

CHARGES THREAT

The white superintendent claimed that Benning had called him by telephone and threatened to take his life as the climax of a dispute over the changing of schedules for Benning and his wife, who worked as an attendant on the Man O'War.

Sat 10-16-48

The railroad police claimed they took two loaded pistols from Benning's pockets when he entered Williams' office and that they felled him with a head blow.

Benning said the officers beat him and took him to Grady Hospital for treatment after the Atlanta Police Station lieutenant refused to admit him in an untreated condition. Benning was given two to three years on the assault count and twelve months each on the misdemeanor counts, the latter to run concurrently.

Barely Misses Knife Attack

The Atlanta Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

DUBLIN—Judge R. Earl Camp, of Laurens County Superior Court, barely missed a knife attack on a crowded street here yesterday packed with Christmas parade spectators, Dublin police reported.

A young Negro listed as Buster Anderson and accused as the attempted assailant was lodged in the city jail, officers declared.

Judge Camp said he was walking to his office when three Negroes barred his progress, and as he pushed them aside Anderson remained in his path.

Sun 12-5-48

After protesting the man's conduct, the Judge said he kicked at the Negro who then followed Camp menacingly with a knife in his hand.

An observer summoned Officer Tilman Jones who subdued the Negro and carried him to jail.

Judge Camp said he did not care to prosecute the man.

Farmer Seeks Refuge From Early Violence

Memphis World
Memphis, Tenn.
Fri. 1-16-48

Trespassing Charged White Farmer Who Starts Shooting Duel

13a Ga.

John Crum, 32-year old farmer and cafe owner of Damascus, Ga., was in Atlanta, Monday seeking sanctuary and refuge after repeated threats had been made against his life following a flare up Dec. 24 over trespassing violations, alledgedly committed by a white peanut planter on property owned by his foster mother, Mrs. Rosa Waiter.

Crum was accompanied to Atlanta by his wife, Emma Kate Crum, who left her two children Georgia and Rosa, in order to seek protection for her husband, who was warned that an attempt would be made on his life.

Crum told the Citizens Defense Committee that on December 24, he protested to H. E. Hightower, white Damascus farmer, against tearing down his fence, wrecking his gate, and bogging down his field, while the farmer's helpers equipped with two tractors and a trailer, crossed repeatedly mowing a crop of peanuts. 1-16-48

DISCOUNTED PROTESTS

He said the Negro farm helpers discounted his protests and said it was no harm. Appealing to Hightower, again the white farmer allegedly attempted to pull a gun from his pockets, but the weapon hung in his pockets, allowing Crum to cover him, although the latter did not shoot. A brother of the white farmer is said to have reached for a shot gun, and started firing. Crum, told the Committee, he then started running with shots peppering the ground as he fled.

Escaping the fire of the incensed farmers, Crum appealed to H. C. Haddock, white citizen of Damascus for aid. Haddock came to Crum's farm and made the white men leave. Haddock advised Crum to seek protection of the Sheriff Sid Howard. Sheriff Howard reportedly investigated the damage to Crum's field and then told him that the men had sworn out two identical warrants for his arrest. The warants charged Crum with carying concealed weapons and pointing a gun at another.

The Memphis World

ARRESTED ON 2 CHARGES

Crum was arrested on these charges and assessed bond of $1,200, which was signed by H. C. Haddock. Fri 1-16-48

However, the white farmers were not satified with Crum's arrest and threats regarding his life continued to circulate Domascus. Fearful of Crum's life his foster mother, Mrs. Walter made an appeal to Hightower to drop the charges against Crum, but the farmer was violently angered because Crum had gotten the drop on him and reportedly threatened him through his mother with "No, I am going to kill him."

Crum came to Atlanta to see Atty. A. T. Walden, last week. The attorney took his statement, and placed his case before several law enforcement authorities and Crum returned to Damascus. On his return, a Dr. C. L. Shepherd, who is the only doctor in Early County, saw him and jumped out of his car and started shooting Crum fled in a hail of bullets.

ADVISED TO LEAVE

The troubled Negro farmer then advised Mr. Haddock of the turn of events and was advised to get out of town. Crum then went to Albany, Ga., where he telephoned Atty. Walden, who sought the aid of several interracial groups, in quieting things for Crum, in Damascus. Armed with this knowledge, he returned to the town.

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WARNED OF MOB VIOLENCE

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Damascus is in Early County, between Arlington and Colquitt. qCrum told the Citizens Defense Committee that the trouble started Dec. 24. Crum must face trial on Monday, January 19, on the two charges preferred against him by the two white men.

Fake Detectives Club Woman, Seize Safe Here

The Atlanta Constitution

Two men posing as city detectives last night entered the home of a Negro on Parsons Street, S. W., severely clubbed his wife with a pistol and carted off a safe containing $1,600.

13a

The woman, Lucy Williamson, of 1049 Parsons St., S. W., was treated at Grady Hospital for severe lacerations of the scalp. Dets. M. W. Blackwell and Roy Pendley, cruising in the section heard reports of "detectives" hauling off a safe and went to investigate. Dets. W. S. Acree and George Christian of the robbery squad reached the scene a few minutes later.

Fri 12-17-48
Atlanta, Ga.

Two medium-sized white men, their hats pulled low over their eyes, knocked at the door and identified themselves as "detectives," the Williamson woman said. They explained they were "investigating a complaint that liquor was being sold at the address."

After gaining admittance the "detectives" looked over the house until they discovered the small green safe in a closet. They demanded the Negro woman open the safe. When she said she could not one of them drew a pistol from his pocket and beat her about the head, she told police.

"We'll just call the wagon and take you and the safe to the police station," she quoted one of the men as saying. "Then we'll get it opened."

While one of them went presumably to use the telephone, the other stuffed a handkerchief and another cloth into the woman's mouth. Then he wrapped several yards of adhesive tape around her head to hold the gag in place.

Instead of using the phone, Acree and Christian said, the bandit clipped the wires. While the confederate stood guard over the woman, he dragged the safe through the kitchen and out on the back porch where two others helped him load it into an automobile. Fri 12-17-48

The quartet apparently had watched from a safe distance until Hugh Williamson, Alias Williams, left at around 8 p.m., Acree and Christian said. Fri-12-17-48

Williamson, arrested first for larceny in 1928, and since convicted several times for lottery, is employed as caddy at the North Fulton Park golf course.

Teen-Age Girl Victim Of Midnight Abduction

The Constitution 13a
Sun 9-12-48

By KEELER McCARTNEY

Atlanta police pressed a search yesterday for a young white girl allegedly kidnaped near the bus station even as they were recording three other assault cases in 24 hours.

Atlanta, Ga.

The girl, described as "not more than 17 or 18 years of age," reportedly was seized as she walked along Williams Street near the Greyhound Parking Lot shortly before midnight Friday and forced into a dark sedan.

Benton Woods, of Canton, who witnessed the abduction, said a man leaped from the sedan and grabbed the girl, clapped his hand over her mouth as she attempted to scream and forced her into the car. Then he sped rapidly away, turning at Baker Street.

While combing the city for the abduction car detectives were anxiously watching for a missing-person report on a girl answering the description. She was said to be wearing blue slacks and a white sports shirt.

Yesterday morning, a 28-year-old woman told Capt. L. J. Carroll and Patrolman N. W. Smith of being carried bodily into a second-story apartment in north Atlanta and assaulted by five men.

The woman said she was walking down Ponce de Leon Avenue near the Clermont Hotel when a young man drove up and offered her a ride. Soon after getting into the car, she related, he picked up four other men and drove to an apartment house in the vicinity of Ponce de Leon Avenue.

There, she said, the five carried her forcibly to a second-floor apartment and each one assaulted her. Capt. Carroll quoted the woman as saying they put her back into the car and drove to Boulevard, N. E., where they put her out of the car.

Sun 9-12-48

A [illegible]-year-old girl of a Central Avenue, S. W., address, told police she was awakened during the early morning hours by a man who wore a black stocking over his face. She said the man choked her to prevent her screaming and then assaulted her.

The girl said her attacker threatened to kill her if she attempted to attract the attention of other members of her family who were asleep. She could not tell whether he was a white man or Negro.

Lt. J. L. Tuggle and Patrolman W. J. Wilson captured a Negro man who fled from a Memorial Drive, S. E., address as the officers rushed there in response to screams from a 15-year-old girl.

The girl said she was awakened by a Negro man who pulled the covers off her. She screamed, officers said, and the Negro jumped through an open window.

After a short foot race, the Negro hailed a taxicab and was picked up at 99 Bell St., N. E., Lt. Tuggle said. Listed as Lloyd McTerrell, 31, of 201 Woodward Ave., S. E., he was booked on charges of suspicion of assault and battery.

At the same time an attractive young Atlanta wife was reported missing from her home at 725 Washington St., by her mother, who said she last saw her Sept. 1

Sun 9-12-48

"slumped in the back seat of a black sedan with her hands tied."

Mrs. V. L. Moon

The young wife is Mrs. Virgil L. Moon, 18. Her mother, Mrs. Helen Lowe, of Chattahoochee, said she saw her daughter riding in a car driven by her former husband on that day. Mrs. Lowe said she told Atlanta and Fulton County police authorities that her daughter's former husband, who she identified as Eddie King, had "threatened he would get her on one of her beauty walks." She explained that her daughter is an expectant mother and has a habit of taking a walk each day. Mrs. Lowe said her daughter had been divorced from King. She said she wed her present husband, Virgil Moon, on June 5. She was wearing a blue dress and white shoes when last seen. She has brown eyes and blonde hair.

BROWN FINED $50 IN COST AND SENT TO GRAND JURY FOR ATTACKING A COLORED OFFICER

Atlanta Daily World

Chattanooga, Tenn.--(SNS)

Judge Riley Graham, Judge of the city court of Chattanooga, after hearing evidence in the Brown-Powell case Saturday, Jan. 10th, fined Wallace Brown of Ross St. on the west side $50.00 in cost and bound him over to the Grand Jury under a $1,000 bond.

Fri 1-16-48

13a-

Brown had a mixup with Deputy Sheriff George Powell, Colored, Dec. 7, 1947, near the corner of Ross and West 12th streets. Powell testified that he was standing on the corner waiting for a bus enroute to town and Brown and two other young men were across the street. Brown was very disorderly. He cautioned Brown to quiet down or he would be forced to arrest him. Brown remarked that, "You are only a Park Policeman and have no authority on the street." At that point the mix-up took place and Brown testified that he put the gypsy on Powell and threw him over his shoulder and while he was down, he hit him several times. Powell's leg was broken in the scuffle. Powell said that he evidently stepped into a hole and twisted his foot and broke his ankle.

Atlanta Da

Brown took Powell's pistol from him while he was down and shot several times in the air and then carried the pistol to his home.

Fri 1-16-48

Brown was arrested a few hours later by white policemen and registered at the city jail.

At the conclusion of the city trial, Judge Graham gave Powell his pistol back.

13a 1948

Georgia

Trespassing Charged White Farmer Who Starts Shooting Duel

Daily World
Atlanta Ga.

John Crum, 32-year old farmer and cafe owner of Damascus, Ga., was in Atlanta, Monday seeking sanctuary and refuge after repeated threats had been made against his life following a flare up Dec. 24 over trespassing violations, alledgedly committed by a white peanut planter on property owned by his foster mother, Mrs. Rosa Waiter. Tu. 1-13-48

Crum was accompanied to Atlanta by his wife, Emma Kate Crum, who left her two children Georgia and Rosa, in order to seek protection for her husband, who was warned that an attempt would be made on his life.

Crum told the Citizens Defense Committee that on December 24, he protested to H. E. Hightower, white Damascus farmer, against tearing down his fence, wrecking his gate, and bogging down his field, while the farmer's helpers equipped with two tractors and a trailer, crossed repeatedly moving a crop of peanuts.

DISCOUNTED PROTESTS

He said the Negro farm helpers discounted his protests and said it was no harm. Appealing to Hightower, again the white farmer allegedy attempted to pull a gun from his pockets, but the weapon hung in his pockets, allowing Crum to cover him, although the latter did not shoot. A brother of the white farmer is said to have reached for a shot gun, and started firing. Crum, told the Committee, he then started running with shots peppering the ground as he fled.

Escaping the fire of the incensed farmers, Crum appealed to H. pointing a gun at another.

ARRESTED ON 2 CHARGES

Crum was arrested on these charges and assessed bond of $1,200, which was signed by H. C. Haddock.

However, the white farmers were not satified with Crum's arrest and threats regarding his life continued to circulate Domascus. Fearful of Crum's life his foster mother, Mrs. Walter made an appeal to Hightower to drop the charges against Crum, but the farmer was violently angered because Crum had gotten the drop on him and reportedly threatened him through his mother with "No, I am going to kill him."

Crum came to Atlanta to see Atty. A. T. Walden, last week. The attorney took his statement, and placed his case before several law enforcement authorities and Crum returned to Damascus. On his return, a Dr. C. L. Shepherd, who is the only doctor in Early County, saw him and jumped out of his car and started shooting Crum fled in a hail of bullets.

ADVISED TO LEAVE

The troubled Negro farmer then advised Mr. Haddock of the turn of events and was advised to get out of town. Crum then went to Albany, Ga., where he telephoned Atty. Walden, who sought the aid of several inter-racial groups, in quieting things for Crum, in Damascus. Armed with this knowledge, he returned to the town. Daily World

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First Jail Term In KKK Flogging

P.M.
New York

By United Press

ATLANTA

R. B. Ellison, who admitted that he flogged two men "in an attempt to do good," was sentenced to three years imprisonment yesterday. N.Y.

Ellison, identified as a Ku Klux Klansman by other "Black Raider" defendants, pleaded guilty in the flogging of Joe C. Berry and Roy Gravitt.

He asked for leniency "to show the women and children in this state that someone is interested in their welfare." He accused both flogging victims of having failed to support their families. Wed. 5-12-48

Judge Bond Almand gave him the maximum sentence allowed. Six other defendants await trial later this week. An eighth committed suicide after connecting the whipping with the KKK.

Baldwin Candidate's Beating Jails 3 Merchant Brothers

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga. Tues 4-6-48

Constitution State News Service

MILLEDGEVILLE, April 5—Three brothers were arrested here late Monday and accused of beating up H. Gaither tBanks, who is a candidate for Baldwin County Treasurer in Wednesday's Democratic primary, Sheriff L. D. Stancil reported.

The Sheriff listed the men as James Frank Townsend, Cecil Townsend and Woody Townsend, all local merchants. The Sheriff added that Banks had identified the men as his assailants.

Banks was badly beaten Sunday night when three men came to his home, called him out and said they were going "to take him for a ride." Tues 4-6-48

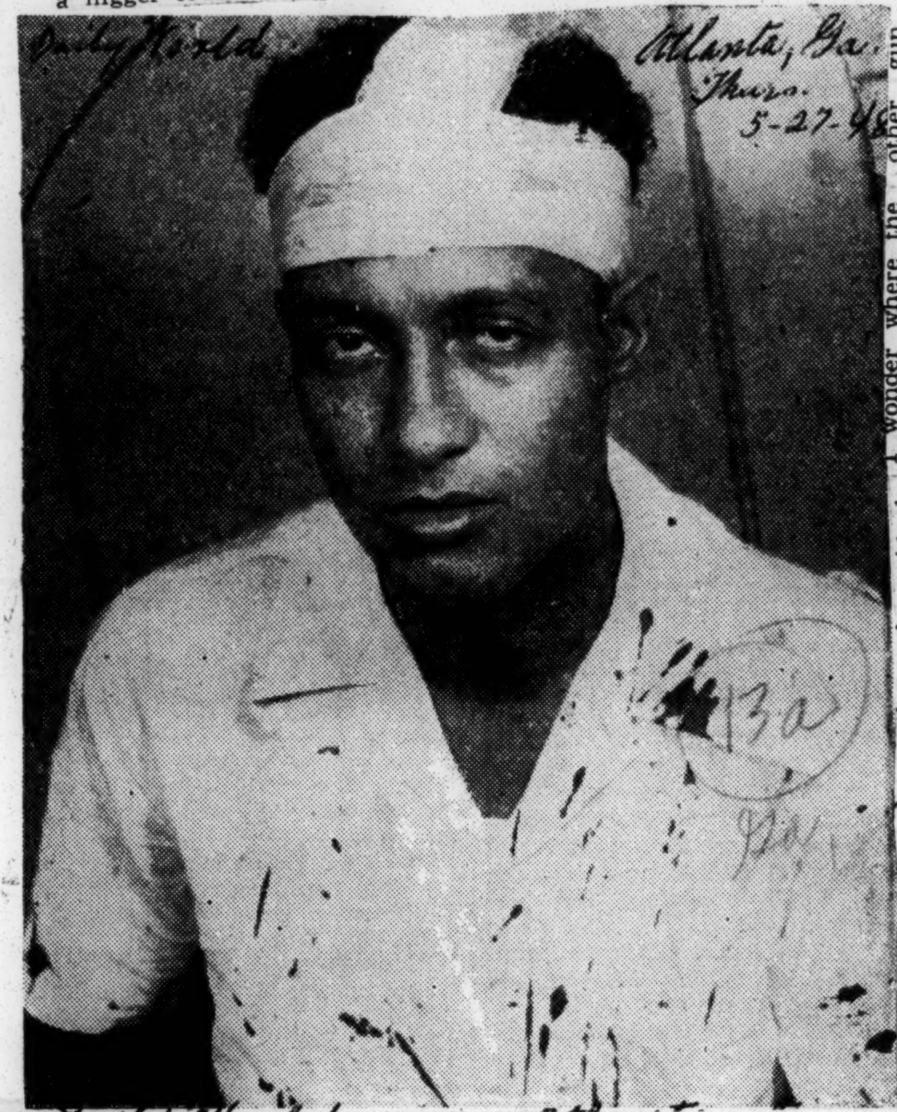
When he refused to go, Banks said he was hit on the head with a pistol by one man and attacked from the rear by the other two.

"The men attempted to drag me to the automobile but neighbors heard the scuffle and caused the men to flee in their automobile," Banks eclared.

The Sheriff said the brothers denied any knowledge of the incident, but he added that blood stains had been found on their car and clothing. A bloodstained pistol also was found in their possession, the Sheriff reported. Tues.

GBI Agents B. S. Ragsdale and Robert DuBarry, who were called in to investigate, said they had a closed case against the three brothers. 4-6-48

Banks said the men who attacked him accused him of "being a nigger lover."



Daily World

ASSAULT VICTIM— Claiming that he walked into a trap of five white railroad employes, Lovejoy Benning, dining car waiter aboard the Central of Georgia streamline "Man of War" said the men assaulted him unmercifully about the head and body. Atlanta, Ga. Thurs. 5-27-48

Waiter Claims Attack At Terminal Station

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

His head and body a gory mass of bruises and scars, Lovejoy Benning, 26, dining car waiter on the "Man of War," stared bewilderingly as he related how five white men—three of them allegedly Central of Georgia railroad employes—trapped him at Terminal Station early Tuesday evening and bludgeoned him into semi-consciousness.

The victim said he recognized three of his attackers as Superintendent of Dining Car Waiters Jack Williams and Special Agents E. C Poole and G. W. Langley. Benning claimed the five men jumped him when he entered the Superintendent's office in compliance with Williams' alleged request that he report for unscheduled work. Thurs.

TRAPPED IN OFFICE

As he strode into the office, Benning said, one of the men slammed the door behind him and that suddenly persons with unseen objects struck him relentlessly about the head and body, battering him to the floor. 5-27-48

Amid reported impassioned pleas for mercy and hospital attention, the youth said one of the members snarled: "You don't need to be taken to a hospital but to an undertaker."

The Bennings are an attractive couple. They reside at 401 Angier Ave.

Benning's mother, who said she received the call from the Superintendent asking that her son report for duty, resides at 1066 Mayson Turner Ave.

His attackers rifled his pocketbook and took his railroad pass, the youth said.

Attorney Russell spoke with perplexed expression when he remarked after the hearing's postponment: "I wonder where the other gun came from that the agents turned into police headquarters identifying it as Benning's."

13a

Commitment Hearings In Butts Slaying Set Today

World Atlanta, Ga.

Fri. 6-25-48

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

JACKSON, Ga.—(SNS)—Two teen age Butts county Negro youths accused of shooting and critically wounding one of four white men who ambushed and shot to death their aged father on June 12, are slated to appear for commitment hearings at the Butts county courthouse at 10 o'clock this morning, Sheriff J. D. Pope of Butts county disclosed. Fri. 6-25-48

Charged with assault with intent to murder, the youths are H. W. and Morris Jefferson. They have been lodged in the county jail since the day of their father's death.

HEARINGS FOR WHITES

Sheriff Pope said further that commitment hearings will also be held today for three of the four white men alleged to have employed lynch tactics in mowing down the 60-year-old tenant farmer, Jesse Jefferson, while he sought safety at the home of a neighboring farmer, Johnny Roddy.

The three white men, A. G. Wilder, Thomas and Hobbs, are charged with suspicion of murder, the Sheriff related. World

ONE ESCAPED

Neighbors claimed that the fourth suspect escaped from the ambush scene before the arrival of the Sheriff. Atlanta Ga.

In a previous interview last week, Sheriff Pope said hearings for the young Jeffersons and the three arrested white men were being withheld pending the outcome of Wilder, who was reportedly shot in the chest and arm by the Jeffersons.

A telephone call to Emory University Hospital where Wilder was receiving medical attention revealed Thursday that he was dismissed from there two or three days ago.

He was to be returned to the custody of Sheriff Pope in answer to the murder charge placed against him.

The World Atlanta, Ga.

BEGINNING OF TROUBLE

During a probe of the slaying it was said that two of the accused white men driving along the highway became incensed and hurled profane remarks at the elderly Jefferson when they claimed he failed to give them enough road space to pass his wagon. A subsequent rock battle was said to have followed. Fri.

Fearful of additional abuse, Jefferson, upon reaching home, moved his family to his neighbor's house. The white men in company with two others reportedly came looking for Jefferson and shot him fatally in the neighbor's yard. 6-25-48

The Jefferson boys are said to have recovered their dead father's rifle and returned the fire, shooting Wilder.

After the shooting, it was said that Jefferson's widow and three other children fled their home to a section in Atlanta known as Lakewood heights. Fri.

A thorough search of the Lakewood heights vicinity failed to disclose their whereabouts. 6-25-48

Asked if the Jeffersons had been afforded legal representation, Sheriff Pope said T. E. Robinson, for whom the deceased farmer worked, had retained the services of Attorney Richard Watkins to defend the the youths.

Youths Bound Over In Butts County

By CLAUDE L. WEAVER

JACKSON, Ga.— (SNS) —Eighteen-year-old Morris Jefferson and his 16-year-old brother, H. W., were bound over to the Butts county grand jury on charges on assault with intent to murder Friday in the alleged shooting of one of four white men who stalked, ambushed and shot their father to death at a neighboring farm here on June 12.

Two of the three arrested white men involved in the slaying of the 60-year-old Negro tenant farmer were simultaneously bound over to the grand jury on charges of voluntary manslaughter during integrated commitment hearings conducted by Judge J. Hall Turner.

The white men bound over were A. G. Wilder and Jerry Thomas, both residents of Henry county which adjoins Butts county where the slaying took place. Their bonds were set at $500 each, while bond for both of the Jefferson youths was set at a similar amount.

ONE SUSPECT FREED

Charges against the third accused Henry county white man, John Hobbs, were dismissed.

Upon their arrest, the three white suspects were held by Sheriff J. D Pope without bond on suspicion of murder. A fourth suspect is said to be still at large.

WILDER INDENTIFIED AS SLAYER

A strapping youth for his age, 18-year-old Morris spoke in a broken voice as he related the details of the fatal shooting of his father and the subsequent shooting of Wilder, one of the alleged ambushers.

"That's the man who shot my father," he said while pointing at Wilder who sat unmoved at the counsel table. "And I shot him," he added, while wiping a tear from his cheek.

Recounting the circumstances which led to the shootings, Morris said he and his father, Jesse Jefferson, were enroute home from Jackson when two of the white men drove up behind their wagon and cursed them for what they claimed Jefferson's failure to give them enough road space to pass.

CURSED, STONED BY SUSPECTS

He told how his father and the profaner exchanged words and of a rock barrage leveled at them by the white men. The youth admitted that his father tossed one rock at the assailants in retaliation during their subjection to furious stoning.

When they returned home, Morris said his father moved the family to a neighboring farmer's house. Shortly thereafter, he claimed that a car of four white men approached the farmhouse and opened fire when they spied his father in the yard. The father was said to have exchanged shots and was killed from ambush by Wilder when maneuvered into the yard by the car driver who pretended a retreat from the scene.

SHOOTS BOLD SUSPECT

Grabbing up his father's gun, Morris said he ran into the house and fired on Wilder through a screen door when the latter approached the house after killing his father.

Wilder clutched his chest, wheeled around and stumbled toward the spot where his father lay dead before he dropped, Morris described.

H. W. Jefferson was not called to the stand.

TURTLE HUNTING?

All three of the white suspects testified they were going turtle hunting at the time the gunfire flared and that they were not searching for the whereabouts of Jefferson.

It was reported by neighbors in the vicinity, however, that when the carload of armed white men approached the vicinity of the shootings, they stopped and asked a little Negro boy the direction to Jefferson's house. The neighbor's home at which the Jefferson family was said to have sought safety was in the white men's direction of approach.

"DARKIES, N.... RS"

Each of the three white suspects, referring to Negroes as "darkies" and "n..... rs," claimed that during the highway dispute Jefferson had hurled threats at them and attempted to borrow a gun from a farmer who lived nearby.

They claimed further that Jefferson fired the first shot.

T. E. Robison, for whom the deceased was a tenant farmer, testified that Jefferson was a "good farmer but was a n ...r you couldn't holler at." Calling Jefferson the best Negro farmer in Butts county, Robison excepted he wasn't "as polite to white people as he should be at times."

AIDED BY ROBISON

It was learned that Robison retained an attorney for the accused youths and went their bond following the hearing.

Sheriff Pope assured the court he was "gonna find out who the other suspected white man is." He claimed the confiscation of several rifles and shot guns from the white men and the Jefferson boys upon their arrest.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Roddy, with whom the Jeffersons sought safety, said their house was perforated from the hail of gunfire directed by the white men. One lad among them was reportedly grazed by two bullets despite their sprawling on the floor for cover.

Solicitor General Frank Willingham said in view of purported evidence which showed "mutual intent to fight" between the Jeffersons and the white men, the judge should bind all of the white suspects over on manslaughter charges. He scoffed at statements that the white suspects were going turtle hunting.

After their release on bond, the Jefferson youths said they were returning to the farm to continue their work for Mr. Robison.

13a

Assaulter Of Couple Said Held

The Constitution

10-25-48

By KEELER McCARTNEY

A search for a Negro man wanted in connection with the assault two years ago of an Atlanta youth and his girl friend, has ended.

DeKalb police report that Eugene Fletcher, accused of a claw hammer attack on the two young people, has been arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Greensboro, Ala. Atlanta Ga.

Two officers were sent to Alabama to return the Negro to DeKalb County for trial, Acting Police Chief Hoyt Sutton said.

The claw hammer attack on the youth and the girl on the Lawrenceville Highway one and one-half miles north of Decatur in June, 1946, created considerable feeling in DeKalb County and Atlanta.

The youth, Al Jennings, of a Ponce de Leon Ave. address, said a Negro man walked up to a car in which he and a 20-year-old girl companion were sitting and ordered them from the car. As Jennings stepped from the car, he said, the Negro struck him on the head with the hammer.

As Jennings fell, he said the Negro turned and struck the girl on the head and seized her. Jennings managed to get to his feet and grappled with the Negro in spite of the severe head wound.

The girl broke free as Jennings fought with the assailant and ran through the darkness for more than a mile before she reached a telephone to call police. The Negro struck Jennings several more times with the hammer and broke away. 10-25-48

County officers found Jennings two hours later wandering around the area in a semi-conscious condition, Sutton said. Both Jennings and the girl were hospitalized for some time.

Sutton said he understood Jennings, now a traveling business man, had suffered a permanent injury to his hearing from the blows. The Acting Chief said efforts are under way to locate Jennings and the girl to prosecute Fletcher.

Fletcher admitted to arresting officers at Greensboro he was the man sought in the case, Sutton said.

13a 1948

Louisiana

Hotel Waiter Complains Of Brutal Beating

13a La.

The Informer

Houston Texas

NEW ORLEANS — A complaint of having been brutally beaten by the house detective of a hotel where he had been employed, taken to the hospital for treatment, then to Recorders' Court to be fined $35, was made to the New Orleans Branch NAACP on Monday by James Britt 40, 1400 South Claiborne avenue.

Exhibiting a badly swollen and bruised face, Britt said he had been a waiter at the St. Charles Hotel from February, 1945 until January 22, 1948 when the incident occurred. He said he had been asked to remain after 6 p. m. when he should have been released from duty and showed his displeasure by uttering a curse.

Sat. 2-7-48

The white woman cashier overheard him curse, he said, and after he had performed the required work, the hotel manager, dining room manager and house detective called him to ask what he had said. "They said they were going to have me put in jail," Britt said.

2-7-48

The house detective, Britt said, called him to the door, struck him in the face, knocking him to the floor, then struck and kicked him. The police patrol wagon was called, he was taken to the hospital for treatment, then to night recorders court where he was fined $35, he said.

Texas

Britt showed proof that he is still being treated at Charity hospital for injuries to his jaw.

Negroes Demand Stop to Murders

The Worker

13a

By Dillard Oakes

Sun. 7-4-48

MERAUX, La. (FP).—If you saw your wife being pushed around and shoved into an outhouse with a gun, wouldn't you grab something to defend her? And how would you feel if—when you tried to charge the man with assault—the law officers instead charged both you and your wife with assault with intent to kill and threw you both in jail? then set $3,000 bail for you and $1,500 for your wife?

That's what happened to Davis Johnson Jr., World War II veteran with two years and 11 months service in the south Pacific and member of Local 11, International Fur and Leather Workers Union CIO, and to his young wife Mary, mother of a 4-month old baby.

They're out of jail now and being defended by the Louisiana Committee for Civil Rights. The Johnsons would have had nowhere to turn if the committee and the union were not on the job. Thanks to them, there'll be a defense lawyer in court when their case comes up who will inquire in the strongest terms why the authorities did not charge the white ruffian with assault instead of throwing the victims themselves in jail.

New York

THE EXPLANATION, of course, isn't hard to discover in this small southern town. The offender is a white businessman and the victims are a Negro trade unionist and his wife. What happened was this:

Mrs. Johnson went to Ora Bankston's grocery store across the street from her home to buy some milk. She found her husband there playing cards and asked him to come home with her. They both left together.

7-4-48

"Mr. Bankston called me back," Mrs. Johnson said, "and said he didn't want no wife to call her husband out of his store, and didn't want no husband to call his wife out. I said he was my husband and I had a right to call him. And he pushed me, and I went out the door, and he pulled out a gun and pushed me into the toilet outside there and began searching me, said somebody said I had a knife. Then his wife heard my mother screaming because she saw Mr. Bankston with the gun, and she pulled him away, and I came home."

7-4-48

HERE'S JOHNSON'S story:

"When my wife spoke to me, I came on home, across the yard, and didn't know what was happening at first. Then my mother-in-law and aunt began screaming, and I looked back and saw him pushing her and holding the gun on her. And I ran into the house to get something to defend her with.

"All I could find was an old butt of a revolver, with no barrel, no trigger, no firing pin and no cartridge, but at least I could hit him over the head with it and make him leave my wife alone. I ran out of the house and into the yard, but I didn't go across to the store because I met my wife coming back."

Mrs. Johnson went to a local justice of the peace and asked him to charge Bankston with assault. He refused, and later that day he issued warrants of arrest for the couple. They were in jail for 2½ days until the Civil Rights Committee bailed them out.

Man Shot, Held In Jail; Admits Meddling Woman

NEW ORLEANS — Held in Third Precinct police station pending the investigation of recent assaults of white women here was Rogers Revader, 30, of 1318 Carondelet Street, who was charged Wednesday at 9:45 p.m. after having been arrested and shot on Canal and North Prieur Streets.

Interviewed in his cell at Third Precinct at 8 a.m. Monday, Revader told the Informer-Sentinel, he was shot by a man dressed in civilian attire who said he was a police officer. Records disclosed Revader had been arrested by Police Officers Baltz, Pettingill, Barras and Elder.

Revader, a native of Des Allemands, La., admitted to the Informer-Sentinel that he had tried to make a date with a white woman on Canal Street believing her to be a Negro woman.

He told the Informer-Sentinel reporter:

"I was walking out Canal St. Tuesday going to a bar room on North Galvez Street. I saw a woman and approached her saying, 'madame, I would like to spend a few dollars with you.'

"She told me, 'I'm going to tell my husband.' I apologized to her telling her I thought she was a colored woman, and I went on my way.

"The next night I had been down to the bar room and was on my way home. As I passed Canal and Johnson, a white man in civilian clothes stopped me saying he was the law. He asked me if I was the one who had been meddling women around there. I told him no.

"He pointed a .32 caliber revolver at me and told me to walk ahead of him. We went to a house and the same woman I had seen Tuesday came out and identified me. The man told her to call the wagon.

"I started to walk away. He told me to halt or he would shoot. I didn't believe he was an officer and made another step away from him and he shot me."

Revader showed the Informer-Sentinel reporter the clothing he had worn at the time, also the bandaged left shoulder where he had been shot. His bloody clothing showed a bullet hole. He had been treated at Charity hospital for a wound just under the left shoulder.

White Man Is Accused Of Accosting Girls

HOUSTON. — Goo goo eyes and indecent exposure before four little school girls had a 38-year-old white man facing charges in Corporation court, March 6. The man, Clinton Laird Davis, of 4000 Melbourne street, was identified street, was identified by four girl students at Crawford Elementary school according to police reports.

Two of the girls, 10 and 13, told their principal, Prof. Tillman H. Henderson, that the man had stopped his car in the 3000 block on Lyons avenue on March 3 and had tried to get them into it. He had exposed himself to them, the little girls told their principal, Prof. Henderson said the girls took the license number of the car, which aided in the arrest.

Another of the girls who is 12 told her principal she was on her way to school about 8 a. m. February 20. The man stopped in the 4800 block on Liberty Road. She said he attempted to get her into his car and also exposed his person to her. The fourth girl who is also 12 repeated the charge of the other three. She said she was on her way home from school and was in the 4800 block of Liberty Road when the man stopped her.

Prof. Henderson said that the girls reported the incident to him and one mother came to talk with him about the offense to her little girl. He said he went one evening to the place the girls said the man had stopped them and waited until all the children passed and nothing happened. Then he got in touch with the Crime Prevention department who he stated was very cooperative in sending a woman out to the school in order to investigate the incident. Permission was secured from the parents of the children to carry them down to make statements and the vigil was on to apprehend the offender, he said.

It was not until several days later, however, that officers, equipped with the license number, were able to catch the car, Prof. Henderson said.

SENTENCE WHITE MAN MD. FOR MOLESTING GIRL

BALTIMORE — (ANP) — An unusual sentence was meted out to a white man here March 4, when Joseph W. Dober, 30, was given five years in the Maryland House of corrections following his conviction of assault on a young Negro girl. White men in Maryland are seldom convicted in such cases and the sentence is always light where a colored woman or girl is involved.

Originally Dober, who is a married man, was convicted of assault with intent to rape as well as simple assault, but the supreme bench of Baltimore reversed the criminal court on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to support the former charge.

The Black Dispatch
Sat 4-10-48
Oklahoma City Okla.

Sentenced To Five Years For Molesting Girl

The Defender
(130) MD.
Sat 3-[illegible]-48

BALTIMORE — (ANP) — An unusual sentence was meted out here when Joseph W. Dober, 30, was given five years in the Maryland House of corrections following his conviction of assault on a young Negro girl.

Chicago Ill.

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Originally Dober, who is a married man, was convicted of assault with intent to rape as well as simple assault, but the supreme bench of Baltimore reversed the criminal court on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to support the former charge.

Dober, the driver of a fuel truck according to testimony, seized the 17-year-old maid at an apartment house where he went to deliver oil on Nov. 17. There was some doubt among some people that the reversal of the higher court was justified.

Negro Red Freed By Detroit Police

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

DETROIT —(U.P.)— A Negro Communist who police said boasted he knew who shot President Walter P. Reuther of the CIO United Auto Workers was freed from police custody under $2,000 bond Saturday. Sun.

Circuit Judge Arthur Webster ordered Nelson Davis, 52-year-old minor UAW office-holder, released after bail was posted and continued a writ of habeas corpus hearing until May 3.

Prosecutor James N. McNally said he did not protest the release of Davis "because we have no new information since this morning." 4-25-48

McNally revealed that police would question Davis, who they charge has withheld information about the shooting, at 11 a.m. next Wednesday morning.

The prosecutor also revealed that he had talked to "Mr. X," who tipped police that Davis had made the boast, and was hunting for another "Mr. X" who has information about the case.

At the same time, police at Flint, Mich., released a second man picked up before dawn at his home. They refused to say why they had questioned Marlon Butler, 37, former UAW international representative and anti-Reuther leader who was defeated for election as an executive board member last November.

But authorities said they had established that the man does not own a red car resembling the one in which a gunman escaped after cutting Reuther down with a shotgun blast at his Detroit home Tuesday night.

Worker Is Held In Reuther Case

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

DETROIT—(AP)—A 52-year-old auto plant worker was ordered held in "temporary detention" late Thursday in the investigation of the shooting and wounding of Walter P. Reuther.

Prosecutor James N. McNally said that Nelson Davis, Negro foundry worker at the Ford Motor Company and minor official in the CIO United Auto Workers, was being detained for further questioning. No charge has been placed against him. Fri.

McNally said an informant told police that Davis claimed to know the identity of Reuther's assailant. Davis has denied this. McNally said. McNally refused to identify the informant.

It was established, McNally added that Davis was at work at the time of the shooting.

"An informant made the statement that this man (Davis) said he knew who did the shooting of Walter Reuther," McNally said. "Davis denies this to me."

McNally made his remarks to a press conference after an afternoon's questioning of Davis and three other UAW-CIO men from the Ford Motor Company.

The other three—Percy Llewellyn, Shelton Tappes and Wilfred Grant—all promised to aid in police investigation, McNally said. 4-23-48

McNally declined to disclose the details of Davis' statement, but said he was "not satisfied with it."

The Whipping-Boy Tactic

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

IN Detroit, the search for the criminal who shot Walter Reuther, CIO auto president, has been completely fouled up. Wed.

The reason? The labor-haters in the police administration pulled the usual formula—"Grab the 'reds' and arrest the Negroes." 4-28-48

We have not the slightest doubt that the decision to grab Negro union officials and the effort to third-degree them into "confessions" is tied in with the fact that there are thousands of Negro auto workers who are sick and tired of being pushed around by the auto corporations. They are thinking good and hard of fighting for wage increases.

NELSON DAVIS

The seizure of a Detroit Negro union leader like Nelson Davis is plainly an effort to bully the Negro auto workers into keeping quiet about wages and working conditions. Daily Worker

The similar effort to smear the Detroit Communists by a headline hysteria against "reds" in connection with the Reuther shooting has the aim of terrorizing all auto union members into keeping their mouths shut on wages.

It's the old whipping boy tactic—yell "red" and put the heat on minorities like the Negroes or, as in Germany, on the Jews. Beat the drums of hysteria to make the working man forget what it's all about—wages, profits and profiteering. New York, N.Y.

Denies Making Statement

[illegible] County Bulletin

DETROIT. — Police Thursday held a left-wing union political foe of Walter P. Reuther for "further questioning" about the attempted assassination of the Communist-hating president of the C.I.O. United Auto Workers. Thurs. 4-22-48

Wayne County Prosecutor James N. McNally released three former officials of U.A.W. local 600 but detained Nelson Davis, 52-year-old Negro and minor local office holder. San Bernardino, Calif.

McNally said an informant, who he refused to name, told police that Davis had told him:

"I know who shot Reuther."

McNally said no formal charges have been placed against Davis, who, the prosecutor said, has proved to the satisfaction of police that he was working at the Ford Motor Co. when Reuther was cut down by a shotgun blast at his home Tuesday night.

"But he denies ever having made the statement the informant told us about," McNally said.

McNally said that in a signed statement Davis had admitted he is a member of the Communist party.

Miss. Armed Stand Reported After Posse Scours Community

Atlanta Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

Sun. 7-25-48

Three Hunted In Shooting Of Sheriff

(3)

HAZLEHURST, Miss.—(SNS)—Conflicting reports came Saturday from sources here on a brewing gun battle between a group of Negroes and a posse of white men said to be searching for three Negroes wanted in the alleged shooting of a sheriff who sought to arrest them.

Early reports claimed that between 50 and 75 Negroes had armed themselves Friday night and took a defensive stand in some nearby swamps when a posse of approximately 200 white men went scouring into their community and barging into their homes in search of the three suspects.

These reports came from several residents of Dentville, a farming community near here. The residents claimed further that the Negroes had made their stand along the bank of Turkey Creek and were armed with rifles, shotguns and pistols.

7-25-48

A denial of the reports that the Negroes had armed themselves against white men came from District Attorney L. S. McClaren and Chief Deputy Sheriff F. L. Bishop. Bishop admitted that about 200 white men were engaged in the search Friday night, but claimed that about 12 remained in the posse Saturday afternoon.

STORE TROUBLE

He explained that the irregularity developed when Sheriff Julius Harper went to arrest a Negro following an altercation which involved the Negro and a white storekeeper and his wife.

Reports claim that the storekeeper's wife charged that the Negro slapped her and drew a knife on her husband.

Bishop listed those hunted as John Fulgham, about 60; his son, Ferman, about 20; and another unidentified suspect. He claimed that all three were at home when the sheriff went to make the arrest. The sheriff is alleged to have been shot in the thigh. 7-25-48

Upon discounting reports of Negroes arming themselves and taking a defensive stand, Bishop remarked:

"It was just a rumor: It got started some way and grew in the telling. He claimed he had throughly investigated the reports. He was non-commital, however, as to whether the 200-man posse was armed.

Latest reports disclosed that the suspects were still at alrge.

Farm Tenant Suffers Brutal Beating By Duo

Lighthouse

Sun. 4-4-48

Columbia S. C.

Civil Rights Issue Said Cause Of Incidents

13a

LOUISE, Miss. — (ANP) — The violence being directed towards Negroes in Mississippi as a result of the bitter agitation of the civil rights issue, which has already been responsible for several incidents in the past few days, was evident in the brutal beating of Cleve Cotton, 43 year old Negro farm tenant here last week; the incident causing widespread increase in the terror slowly spreading over Negroes in the Mississippi Delta and throughout the state.

According to reports, Cotton, the 43 year old Negro farm tenant was beaten by Timmie Quinn and Sums Seward, two white men with whom he became involved while attempting to pay his water bill.

Cotton is reported as saying that he went into the office to pay his water bill and while there, sought to obtain permission from Quinn to stop a leak in the water pipe in front of his home which he agreed to fix himself without cost to the city.

Sun. 4-4-48

RECEIPT WITHELD

Quinn becoming enraged at this suggestion refused to give him a receipt for his water bill and when he requested a receipt, came from behind the counter and started hitting him across the head with a stick. Seward, another white man in the office at the time, joined Quinn, striking Cotton several blows across the head with a heavy stick.

Although bloodily beaten, with several gashes about the head and face, Cotton was able to escape and later made his way to the office of the mayor who called the sheriff and the doctor who administered treatment.

13a

After receiving treatment, Mayor J. D. Upshaw and sheriff Jim Powell told Cotton that he and his family of five would have to leave town, that they could not live in the town any longer.

The Cotton family includes the wife, Mrs. Viola Cotton and five children, Leroy, 21; M. F., 17; Eloise, 6; Cleve Jr., 4 and Leonard Earl, a four month old baby

PROPERTY OWNER

Cleve Cotton, the beaten man owns his own home, had another house under construction and is the owner of two other valuable city lots.

The family left town over night after being advised to leave by the mayor and the sheriff.

Neither of the white men involved in the case were arrested.

In Jackson Tuesday Cotton is said to have reported the case to the Jackson office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who is reported to have forward a report of the case to the Washington office of the department of justice.

13a 1948

Mississippi

arm Tenant Suffers Brutal Beating By Duo

Atlanta Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

Civil Rights Issue Said Cause Of Incidents

Sun 3-28-48

LOUISE, Miss. — (ANP) — The violence being directed towards Negroes in Mississippi as a result of the bitter agitation of the civil rights issue, which has already been responsible for several incidents in the past few days, was evident in the brutal beating of Cleve Cotton, 43 year old Negro farm tenant here last week; the incident causing widespread increase in the terror slowly spreading over Negroes in the Mississippi Delta and throughout the state. Sun-3-28-48

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Rout 'States Rights' Hoodlums

Rifle Shots Turn Mississippi Mob Into 'Rabbits;' Forget Lynch Mission

Defender Sat. 7-24-48 Chicago, Ill.

BULLETIN!!!

Hartness Flowers, another cousin of Martin Flowers, has surrendered to Sheriff Lloyd Simpson of Madison County. It was learned that Martin Flowers, intended victim of the mob, had been freed and caught the first train leaving for the North. His wife and eight of his children, it was reported, will remain here and work the farm.

CARTHAGE, Miss.— A Mississippi mob said by the sheriff to be on a "peaceful mission" was routed here last week when unknown persons opened fire as they stood in a Negro's front yard, bent on lynching him. 7-24-48

Two members of the heavily-armed mob, which had accused Martin Flowers, 40, of "running around with a white woman," were wounded, one critically. They fled from Flowers' yard when two men, said to be Flowers' cousins, fired from across the road, bowling over two of the would-be lynchers, William Dickens, 34, and Fred Waggoner, 39, Dickens was seriously wounded.

Sheriff F. F. Munday said later last week that one of the two Negro youths suspected of doing the shooting, had been arrested. He added that a posse of deputies is continuing the search for Hartness Flowers, 20, another cousin. No charges have been placed against the white mobsters said the sheriff because his investigation showed they had been on a peaceful mission.

Miss

With the first volley of shots the members, numbering about 20, scrambled into the darkness, temporarily abandoning their automobiles and truck in which they rode to Flowers' home.

Expected To Leave Town

Sat. 7-24-48

Following the incident police rushed Martin Flowers to Hinds County jail at Jackson, Miss., in a late effort to prevent mob violence. Sheriff Munday said Flowers, father of nine children, would be released from jail soon. He is expected to leave town immediately to avoid further lynching efforts.

Foiled in its attempt to get "the n——r," one of the mob members W. J. Gross, 41, later said they went to the "Negro's house to get him to leave town because he was running around with a white woman."

Gross, a Carthage farmer, told his distorted story when he went Jackson to carry Dickens to a hospital. Defender

He also said there were 10 men who composed the mob that went to Flowers' home. According to a reliable source no less than 10 men were at the colored man's home when rifle fire out of the darkness put the group to flight.

Gross said at the Jackson hospital: "We were a group of peaceful citizens who went to the Negro's house to get him to leave town because he was r nning around with a white woman.

"Leave By Daylight"

"There were 10 of us in two automobiles and a pickup truck. We went to the 'n——r's' nouse about nine o'clock and told him to leave by daylight. He said he would. Chicago, Ill.

"We were standing in front of the house. The lights of the cars were on. Then firing started from across the road, away from the house. The 'n——r' we went to talk to was on the porch of his house. He wasn't firing. Sat.

"We had guns but the lights were on, and we were in the open. So we left right away. We went to the doctor because one of the men was seriously wounded. Then we told the sheriff. 7-24-48

"A white woman who lives across the road said she saw the men who did the firing. She said she recognized them as cousins of the man we had gone to see. The firing was done with rifles. There were 24 holes in the automobiles."

Dickens, the critically wounded mobster, was shot in the neck and also has an ankle wound. Waggoner's injuries included a cut lip and a gash on the nose from flying glass. He was also said to have been slightly nicked on a finger by a rifle bullet. He did not require hospitalization.

Flowers, a farmer, denied that he had been "running around with a white woman."

Negroes Face Charges For Firing At Whites

News Birmingham Ala.

CARTHAGE, Miss., July 22—(AP)—Rifle shots fired into a group of 10 white men as they told a Negro to get out of town have resulted in assault charges against two other Negroes.

Thur

County Atty. Harold Davidson said yesterday he had charged Hartness and James Flowers, brothers, with assault and battery with a deadly weapon. They were arrested after a three-day search.

The group of white men had gone to call on Martin Flowers, a cousin of the brothers, and order him out of town "for running around with a white woman." Flowers said he had not "run around with any white woman," but left town shortly after being released from protective custody. 7-22-48

Two of the white men were injured when the shots suddenly broke out from across the road from Martin Flowers' home as the group was leaving.

Enterprise Journal

Assault Charges Are Brought In Shooting Affair At Carthage

McComb Miss

Carthage, Miss.—(AP)—Rifle shots fired into a group of ten white men as they ordered a Negro to leave Carthage, Miss., have resulted in assault charges against two other Negroes.

County Attorney Harold Davidson said he has charged Heartness and James Flowers with assault and battery with a deadly weapon. The brothers were arrested after a three day search.

The group of white men had called on Martin Flowers and had asked him to leave town because he was "running around with a white woman." Flowers said he had nothing to do with any white woman but agreed to leave. Thur 7-22-48

Two of the white men were injured when shots suddenly sprayed into the group as they left the porch of the flowers home. 7-22-48

NEGRO PLEADS GUILTY TO SHOOTING CHARGES

Commercial Appeal

Williams Sentenced To Four Years In Prison

Memphis, Tenn.

Special to The Commercial Appeal

HATTIESBURG, Miss., July 27.—Zeddie Williams, 36-year-old negro, was sentenced to four years in the Penitentiary by Circuit Judge Burkett Collins Tuesday after pleading guilty to shooting J. L. McCaffrey with intent to kill here nine years ago.

Williams had entered a plea of innocence when arraigned Monday but changed his plea when his case was called up for trial Tuesday. Wed. 7-28-48

Asked by Judge Collins if he wished to make a statement, Williams said:

"I shot Mr. McCaffrey in self-defense, but I don't have no money for a lawyer and I asks the mercy of the court."

Before passing sentence, the judge took unsworn testimony from a deputy sheriff who investigated the affair, from McCaffrey and his companion at the time of the shooting, J. E. Jacobs, and from Williams.

The shooting occurred at Williams' house, where McCaffrey, then a grocery store proprietor, had gone in connection with an unpaid bill owed by Williams.

Williams disappeared after the shooting. He was apprehended in Chicago in early 1947, but was released after an extradition hearing and then was picked up here last Sunday night.

Victim of Rifle Fusillade in Carthage Affair Comforted by Mother in Hospital

Enterprise-Journal

McComb, Miss.

Tues. 7-20-48

McComb, Miss.

Enterprise-Journal

William Dickens, 34, of Carthage, Miss., lies in a hospital bed at Jackson after being wounded by rifle fire as he and nine other white men were leaving a Negro's home in Carthage. A group had gone there to order the Negro to leave town because of reports that he "was running around with a white woman." The wounded man is comforted by his mother, Mrs. I. B. Dickens.

LEAVES HIS HOME AFTER DISORDER

(The Associated Press)

Carthage, Miss., July 17. — A Negro father of nine is heading north today, fleeing his home after a warning by 10 white men for "running around with a white woman."

Deputy Sheriff Guy McGivney said last night that Martin Flowers, 40-year-old Negro family man, got out of the county shortly after his release from protective custody.

Times-Picayune

The deputy commented, "I think he has gone to Chicago where he has a daughter."

A brief but sharp flicker of racial friction swirled around the Negro Wednesday night, punctuated by a volley of rifle fire, as the 10 white men visited his home to suggest his departure.

Two white men were wounded, one seriously, when their cars and a truck were punctured with 24 rifle bullets.

New Orleans, La.

The bullets zipped from across the road as the white men still stood talking to Martin.

Sun.

Deputy McGivney said Martin's cousin, James Flowers, was arrested yesterday in connection with the shooting and that another cousin, Hartness Flowers, is still the object of a search by six deputies. 7-18-48

Sheriff F. F. Munday said no charges have been filed against James, but that the Negro has been removed to Hinds county jail in Jackson for "safekeeping."

Rifle Fire Wounds Man As He Tells Negro To Move

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

CARTHAGE, MISS.— (AP) —A fusilade of rifle fire wounded two of a group of 10 white men as they left the home of a Negro after ordering him to leave town for "running around with a white woman." Fri. 7-16-48

A posse led by Leake County Sheriff F. F. Munday searched this hilly, piney woods country Thursday, for two Negroes who reportedly fired the shots. Authorities did not know their names, but they had reports the two were relatives of the Negro whom the white men visited Wednesday night.

The Negro ordered to leave town was taken by authorities to the Hinds County jail at Jackson, Miss., where he was listed as Martin Flowers, 40.

Deputy Sheriff Guy McGivney said at Carthage that Flowers was taken to Jackson "for safekeeping," and that there were no charges against him.

In a jail interview at Jackson, Flowers said he "didn't have anything to do with a white woman," but had agreed to leave town as ordered by the white men. Flowers said he was a farmer with a wife and nine children.

William Dickens, 34, a farmer, was the more seriously injured of the two wounded white men. He received a severe neck wound and an ankle wound, and was taken to a Jackson, Miss., hospital. He was expected to recover.

Sheriff Munday's office said the other wounded white man was Fred Waggoner who suffered cuts of the lips and nose from flying glass. His wounds did not require hospitalization.

A man who identified himself as W. J. Gross, 41, a Carthage farmer, came to Jackson with Dickens. In a hospital corridor interview, Gross said he was one of the 10 men who visited Flowers. He said it was a "peaceful mission." 7-16-48

"We were a group of peaceful citizens," said Gross, "who went to the Negro's house to get him to leave town because he was running around with a white woman.

"There were 10 of us in two automobiles and a pickup truck. We went to the Negro's house about nine o'clock last night and told him to leave by daylight. He said he would. 7-16-48

"We were standing in front of his house. The lights of the cars were on. Then firing started from across the road, away from the house. The Negro we went to talk to was on the porch of his house. He wasn't firing.

"We had guns, but the lights were on, and we were in the open. So we left right away. We went to the doctor, because one of the men was seriously wounded. Then we told the sheriff.

"A white woman who lives across the road said she saw the

Search Is Continued In Mississippi Area For Shooting Suspects

News

Birmingham, Ala

CARTHAGE, Miss., July 16—(AP)—This farm community of 1,500 appears calm as sheriff's deputies prowl nearby hills hunting two Negroes wanted in the rifle wounding of two white men.

Sheriff F. F. Munday said yesterday "all is quiet" he said he has reduced an original posse to his force of regular deputies in the search. Fri. 7-16-48

The two white men were wounded when rifle fire ripped into a group of 10 who called at a Negro's home Wednesday night to order him out of town for "running around with a white woman."

Sheriff Munday said the Negroes sought were known only as relatives of the Negro whom the white men visited. News

The Negro ordered to get out of town was taken to a jail at Jackson, Miss., for safekeeping. The sheriff identified him as Martin Flowers, 40. Fri. 7-16-48

The sheriff said there were no charges against him.

Flowers in a jail interview denied having anything to do with a white woman. He said he is a farmer with a wife and nine children. Birmingham Ala

The sheriff's office identified the wounded white men as William Dickens, 34, and Fred Waggoner.

Courier Journal

Whites Telling Negro To Leave Town Fired On

Louisville Ky.

Fri - 7-16-48

Carthage, Miss., July 16 (AP)—A fusilade of rifle fire wounded two of 10 white men as they left the home of a Negro after ordering him to leave town for "running around with a white woman."

A posse led by Leake County Sheriff F. F. Munday searched this hilly, piney woods country today for two Negroes who reportedly fired the shots. Authorities did not know their names, but they had reports the two were relatives of the Negro the white men visited last night.

The Negro ordered to leave town was taken by authorities today to Hinds County Jail at Jackson, Miss., where he was listed as Martin Flowers, 40.

Has Nine Children.

Deputy Sheriff Guy McGivney said at Carthage that Flowers was taken to Jackson "for safekeeping," and that there were no charges against him.

Flowers said he "didn't have anything to do with a white woman," but had agreed to leave town. Flowers said he was a farmer with a wife and nine children.

William Dickens, 34, a farmer, was the more seriously injured of the two wounded men. He received a severe neck wound and an ankle wound, and was taken to a Jackson hospital. He was expected to recover.

Sheriff Munday's office said the other wounded man was Fred Waggoner who suffered cuts of the lips and nose from flying glass.

Called 'Peaceful Mission.'

A man who identified himself as W. J. Gross, 41, a Carthage farmer, came to Jackson with Dickens. Gross said he was one of the 14 who visited Flowers. He said it was a "peaceful mission."

"We were a group of peaceful citizens," said Gross, "who went to the Negro's house to get him to leave town because he was running around with a white woman.

"There were 10 of us in two automobiles and a pickup truck. We went to the Negro's house about 9 o'clock last night and told him to leave by daylight. He said he would.

'We Left Right Away.'

"We were standing in front of his house. The lights of the cars were on. Then firing started from across the road, away from the house. The Negro we went to talk to was on the porch of his house. He wasn't firing.

"We had guns, but the lights were on, and we were in the open. So we left right away. We went to the doctor, because one of the men was seriously wounded. Then we told the sheriff.

A white woman who lives across the road said she saw the men who did the firing. She said she recognized them as cousins of the man we had gone to see. The firing was done with rifles. There were 24 holes in the automobiles."

Delay Hearing in Attack on Negro

New York, N.Y.

Hearing of felonious assault charges against Daniel Sgobbo, 17, in the near-fatal gang attack on a Negro was postponed yesterday to May 10 in the Youth Term Court. Judge Abraham M. Block granted the delay when the police stated the victim, Joseph Beauford, 27, was still in a critical condition at Columbus Hospital.

Tu. 5-4-48

As reported in the Daily Worker yesterday, Beauford, and several other men and women companions, were savagely attacked in a parking lot at Broadway and E. Houston St. by a gang of 25 or 30. Police however, arrested only Sgobbo and a 15-year-old youth whose name they withheld.

Eighth precinct police have denied knowledge of any ohetr victims and the District Attorney's office indicated no interest when contacted by the Daily Worker.

Beauford's sister, Mrs. Annie Bates, 376 Lenox Ave., stated her brother was unable to talk coherently when she visited him Sunday.

Bronx DA Aide Rebuffs Beaten Negro Couple

By John Hudson Jones Daily Worker

Bronx Assistant District Attorney Walter X. Stanton yesterday brushed off charges of biased law enforcement made by a Negro couple recently beaten by hoodlums. Although his office handled the case for over a month, and he personally questioned one of the victims on April 19, he told the Daily Worker he didn't know what happened or whether he intended to do anything about it.

Neal

"Call me in about two weeks," Stanton said over the telephone, "I might know more about it then."

Thurs. 4-22-48

The couple, student veteran Reginald Henry, 28, and his wife Mary 22, 1517 Washington Ave., were beaten Feb. 1 and driven from their home at 580 E. 150 St. by a gang of 15. Two visiting friends, Esther Evans, [illegible], and Riddick Aiken, 25, were also attacked by the gang which has long terrorized Negroes in that community.

LETTER TO DEWEY 4-22-48

Justice was thwarted from the very beginning, the Henrys charged in a March 18 letter to Governor Dewey, which said Bronx police, judges, and the D. A. "clearly collaborated with the hoodlum element in that neighborhood."

The governor was asked to urge Chief City Magistrate Edgar Bromberger to "investigate the manner in which the courts made a farce of so-called justice when the safety and civil rights of Negroes were concerned."

New York

Lawrence E. Walsh, a Dewey aide, wrote the Henrys on March 22 that the matter had been referred to Bronx D. A. Samuel J. Foley. It was only last Monday, however, before Stanton called in Henry.

As reported in the Daily Worker, five of the gang identified by the victims were arrested. But although Mrs. Henry was severely cut, 42nd Precinct Patrolman Ahle and the complaint clerk, simply entered disorderly conduct complaints.

JUDGE'S ADVICE 4-22-48

In Bronx Municipal Court, one of the men, already on parole from a Sing Sing stretch for assault, pleaded guilty, whereupon, according to Henry the four others indicated they would do likewise. Judge Peter A. Abeles, however, advised them not to, says Henry.

Sensing trickery, the Henrys and their friends, went to Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, and then to the Harlem Civil Rights Congress.

On Feb. 9 the cases were heard in the Youth Term, as all of the men except the convicted thug were under 21. Then began the long parade of five postponements before four different judges.

Jones then laid the facts before Stanton, who promised to appear in court Feb. 20 and ask for assault charges. He never came.

Finally, according to the Henrys, they were advised by both Judges Morris Ploscowe, and Samuel Orr, not to push the case. Judge Orr, they declared warned they "might have more trouble" if they did. And when they persisted on March 8, he said two of the men had witnesses to swear they were somewhere else at the time of the incident.

Daily Worker

"Evidently our word wasn't anygood, because we were Negroes," Henry told the Daily Worker.

Three of the attackers, James McGrath, John Hayes, and Lawrence Madison, however, pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct before Judge Orr. Hayes and McGrath got suspended sentences. Madison was held for parole violation. James Spinelli and John Hynes were freed.

Probationary Cop Held in Shooting of 2 Brothers

134

NEW YORK (ANP) — Francis T. Hogan, 22, probationary policeman of Brooklyn, was arraigned Sunday before Magistrate Joseph B. Glebocki in Brooklyn Felony Court accused of having wounded two colored brothers, Leon, 29, and Alphonse Lipscom, 26. Suspended without pay from the force, he was released under $2,000 bail for a further hearing.

The brothers reportedly were sitting on their steps Saturday night with friends, when Hogan, who was off duty at the time, ordered them to go home. A scuffle followed during which the officer's gun was fired wounding the two brothers and himself in the left shoulder.

Boy, 10, and Grandfather, 75, Balk Hold-Up Pair in Long Island Home

Times

(13a) N.Y. New York N.Y.

Mon. 1-5-48 Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LAWRENCE, L. I., Jan. 4—A 10-year-old boy and his 75-year-old grandfather combined to balk an attempted hold-up last night in the home of Sason Zacharia, New York underwear manufacturer, at 2 Regent Drive here. One alleged participant was under arrest here today and the police were searching for another. Times

Mr. Zacharia was in Miami on vacation at the time, but his wife, their three sons, Irving, 10, Eli, 7, and Alvin, 4, and Mrs. Zacharia's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Nathtali, who are 75 and 70 respectively, were in the home at the time. Mr. and Mrs. Nathtali came here recently from Greece and speak little English. New York N.Y.

About 7 P. M. Saturday the doorbell rang. Irving went to the front door but found no one there. The Zacharias' butler, Eric Washington, went to the rear door and found two men, a Negro and a white man. They said that their

moved

pivot of Middle East history for 3,000 years—in an attempt to pry the battling Jews and Arabs apart.

Battle Rages for 2 Days

The battle had raged for two days near shrines sacred to Christians, Jews and Arabs. There was fear that it might touch off the threatened full-scale war between Jews and Arabs for Palestine.

Both sides threatened to step up the pace. A spokesman for the Jewish Agency said that the Jews would "shoot up an Arab road block" at one of the gates if necessary to lift the siege. He explained that no food convoy had reached the 1,500 surrounded Jews since last Thursday and added: "Naturally the old city won't be blocked for any length of time with us looking on as spectators."

The Arabs asserted that guerrillas from Syria, Lebanon and Trans-Jordan had slipped into the Walled City to bolster Palestine Arabs. One informant said that seventy-five empty Arab interur-screaming, toward the front door, while the hold-up men took fright and ran empty-handed out of the back door. (13a) N.Y.

Young Irving Zacharia had meanwhile used an extension telephone in an upstairs bedroom to call the police. The boy retained presence of mind enough to give his home address, and the Woodmere precinct of the Nassau County police sent a radio car to the scene. Times

Searching the neighborhood, the patrolmen in the radio car picked up a Negro at the corner of The Causeway and Keewaydin Road, several blocks away. He said he was Samuel Graham, 27, of 156 West 144th Street, New York. He was taken to the Zacharia home, where, the police said, the butler identified him as one of the robbers. New York N.Y.

Held for Further Examination

He was taken to the Woodmere police station, where he was questioned at length. This morning he was arraigned before District Court Judge George S. Johnson, who ordered him held for further examination tomorrow on charges of assault, and possession of burglary tools. He denied the charges and demanded a lawyer.

Detectives found a German Luger pistol today on Keewaydin Road, near where Graham was arrested, and several blocks away in the opposite direction they found a brown leather blackjack, apparently the one with which Mr. Nathtali was hit. They also found a kit of burglar's tools outside the Zacharia home. Mon. 1-5-48

A police alarm was broadcast for a white man who took part in the crime. It described him as about 35, 5 feet 5 inches tall; weighing about 140 pounds, and dressed in a dark overcoat and a gray fedora hat.

car had stalled in the snow and asked permission to telephone.

The butler, after obtaining Mrs. Zacharia's approval, permitted them to enter and led them to an alcove just off a breakfast room, where Mrs. Zacharia and her mother were having supper. Mr. Nathtali and the three boys were in the living room.

In the alcove both intruders drew pistols and told the butler to put his hands up. The Negro ordered him into the kitchen, while the white man advanced toward the breakfast room. Mrs. Zacharia, however, suspected that something was wrong and called to her sons to run upstairs. Mon. 1-5-48

Mr. Nathtali went back from the living room to investigate. The white thug hit him over the head with a leather blackjack, stunning him but not inflicting a serious injury. At this Mrs. Zacharia fled.

HIT POLICE LAXITY IN PROBE OF ASSAULT ON 5 NEGROES

(13a) N.Y. Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

By John Hudson Jones

Coney Island police yesterday still hadn't found a gang of hoodlums that attacked five Negroes Feb. 8, hospitalizing one with a broken jaw. Detective Abraham Riskin, of the 60th Precinct said "no arrests have been made, but we're still investigating." Fri.

Those assaulted were Luther Bostic, 23, of 2823 W. 30 St.; his wife, Grace, 23; James A. Spears, 28, of 2829 W. 30 St.; James and Jolin McClain brothers 64 Community St. Jersey City, N. J. Bostic is now in the Coney Island Hospital 2-13-48

Mrs. Bostic said, she, her husband and friends were attacked about 12:30 a. m. while walking along 16 St. "Just as we neared Neptune Ave.," Mrs. Bostic said, "about 15 or 20 men suddenly rushed at us from all sides." The men ranged from "fellows in their late teens to full grown men she said."

SEVERELY BRUISED

No words were passed, Mrs. Bostic said. "They just started cursing and beating us with sticks, bottles, and garbage can tops."

Mrs. Bostic, a comely dark woman, was in bed interviewed. She received a scalp wound that required six stitches.

Spears, a veteran, was severely bruised on his face, hands and legs.

"I think they're after Jews as well as Negroes," Spears declared in another interview. He said the cops came Sunday and asked him to identify two men but he didn't recognize them. Daily Worker

A delegation of local Communist Party members and other citizens went to the 60th Precinct Sunday evening, to protest police laxness in finding the hoodlums. 2-13-48

Detectives roused Mrs. Bostic and Spears for questioning at 3:30 a. m. Monday. New York, N.Y.

Al Winger, Coney Island Communist Party leader, said yesterday that there had been "dozens of these cases, and no arrests." He declared that Jewish children attending Mark Twain Junior High School have also been attacked.

"We have affidavits and witnesses to the attacks and we're to take them to Commissioner Wallander and Mayor O'Dwyer," he said.

Cops Admit Knowledge of Attack on 2 Negro Women

(13a) N.Y. Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Fri. 2-27-48

The Eighth Precinct police now admit knowledge of the Greenwich Village hoodlum attack on two Negro women, Feb. 21, which they had tried to hush up. Dr. Dan W. Dodson, director of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, reluctantly told the Daily Worker yesterday the admission was made to him.

The still unidentified Negro women were insulted and attacked by three men, just after midnight in the crowded cafeteria. After one was knocked cold, a battle royal started and the hoodlums escaped just before the police arrived.

Affidavits by four eye witnesses declare at least a dozen squad cars came, and later took the women away. One was still semi-conscious. The affidavits are in the possession of the Civil Rights Congress, 112 E. 19 St.

Despite this, the day after the incident, an Eighth Precinct desk lieutenant insisted "We don't know nothing about it and don't have no records."

ECHOES COPS Fri. 2-27-48

Miss Miriam Peters, a CRC representative told a meeting of community leaders, Wednesday, that Dr. Dodson refused to come or send a representative to the meeting and echoed police statements of "no records of anything happening."

When she told him the story and mentioning the affidavits, and how one woman lost her purse, he said according to her, "Oh she got her purse back. The cafeteria manager called the precinct while they were there and said he'd found it." Lloyd Vanderhoof, the manager, hasn't been reached yet, and police say they took no names, or addresses although a definite assault was committed and the cafeteria almost wrecked during the battle royal. Daily Worker

Dr. Dodson said yesterday he would "have a look" at the affidavits before the committee contemplated any action. Last April, the committee held a long hearing after several Negroes and their white friends had been attacked in that same area. So far no report has been made public, although one was promised. 2-27-48

The Greenwich Village Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress is sending a delegation today, to see Capt. Henry Krantz, of the Eighth Precinct. They will protest apparent dereliction of duty in the handling of the affair and demand immediate action.

On the delegation will be Dr. Lyman Bradley, New York University; Dr. Randolph Smith, director of the Little Red Schoolhouse; Hale Hendrix editor of 'Carciature'; Dr. Margaret Schlauch, New York University, Mark Van Doren, author and Miss Peters. New York, N.Y.

Offer $1000 to Find 3 Who Beat Negro Women

13a N.Y. Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Wed. 2-25-48

A $1,000 reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of three hoodlums who attacked two Negro women in the Waldorf Cafeteria, 394 Avenue of the Americas, early Feb 21. The reward notice has been possted throughout Greenwich Village by the local chapter of the Civil Rights Congress.

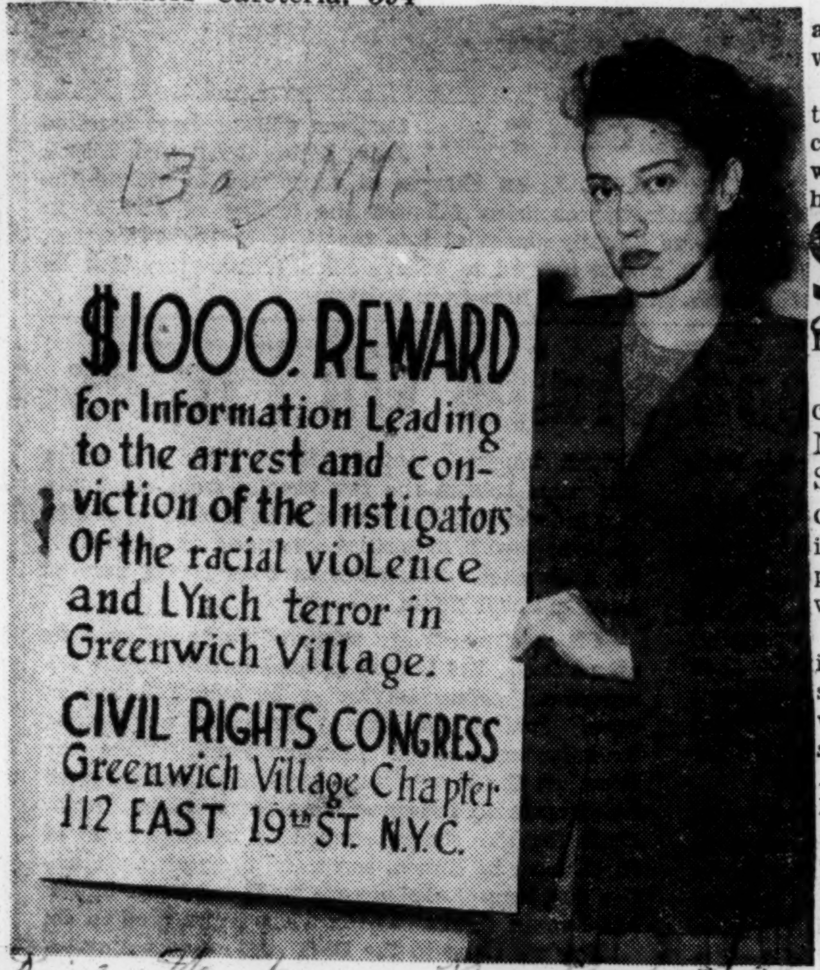
According to the affidavits of eye witnesses, Robert Harris, Larry Harris, and William Gordon, all of 316 Mott St., the women were insulted as they entered the cafeteria and headed for the food counter. They protested, and one of the men dashed hot coffee into one of the women's face. She defended herself and was promptly knocked cold.

A battle royal promptly broke out among sympathizers of both the women and the hoodlums. After a few minutes the police of the Sixth and Eighth Precincts arrived. They took the women away, without attempting to find their attackers. Now police of both precincts declare they have no record of any such incident. The affidavits are available in CRC offices, 112 E. 19 St. Wed 2-25-48

Besides the reward, CRC has called a conference of all social, community, educational and political groups, for tonight, Feb. 25, 8 p.m. at 28 Greenwich Ave. It has also appealed to the city's press to help locate the young women. N.Y.

Here are descriptions of the three hoodlums, secured by the Daily Worker and published Feb. 23:

The men conspicuous because of their "summer-like" clothes, the eye witness declared. One was a red-headed youthh of about 19, six feet tall, and wore an olive drab shirt with no coat. Another was slightly shorter, with black hair, and wore a light blue checked sport jacket. The third was stocky, about five and a half feet tall, and wore a brown leather doublet-styled jacket. Daily Worker



Daily Worker New York N.Y.

VILLAGE AROUSED: Mary Ackerman, member of the Greenwich Village chapter of the Civil Rights Congress, holds a poster which tells its story. Villageites are aroused over the most recent attack upon two Negro women in a local cafeteria.

Wed 2-25-48

TWO MORE ARRAIGNED IN GANG ATTACK ON NEGROES

13a D.W. Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

Two more alleged participants in a recent Lower East Side gang attack on six Negroes were yesterday arraigned in Youth Term, 100 Centre St., on charges of felonious assault. Appearing before Judge William W. Hoppin, who released each on $2,000 bail, were Salvatore Perez, 17, of 20 Prince St., and Anthony Cappello, 17, of 291 Elizabeth St. Tues. 5-11-48

This makes four arrests by Eighth Precinct Patrolman James Wylie and Detective Joseph Pickett since midnight May 1, when a gang of 25 or more hoodlums attacked the Negroes, severely injuring one.

The injured man, Joseph Beauford, 27, 108 W. 132nd St., at Bellevue Hospital, is in a critical condition from four skull fractures.

The other accused youths are Daniel Sgobbo, 17, 124 Mott St., and a 15-year-old whose name police withheld. Sgobbo is under $1,000 bail.

Despite the fact that five of the Negroes attacked reported the attack to both fifth and eighth precinct police, none has been contacted as possible witnesses by the district attorney's office.

Police have denied that there were other victims, but the Daily Worker located and interviewed other victims last week. Each charged they had been questioned at length but were not permitted to lodge charges. Tues.

The last two arrests were made after the Daily Worker began investigating the attack. 5-11-48

Each of the five beaten people, two of whom are women, has declared that if given a chance they would testify to help brong the hoodlums to justice.

Stall Trial in Attack on Negroes

Daily Worker

By John Hudson Jones

The case of four youths charged with beating several Negroes at East Houston Street and Broadway recently, was again postponed in Youth Term Court without the police calling up a number of vital witnesses. New York, N.Y.

The most severely injured victim, in the midnight May 1 attack, Joseph Beauford, 27, 108 W. 132 St. was in court yesterday with his sister, Mrs. Annie Bates, 476 Lenox Ave. Despite the fact that police have questioned the other victims as well as several other eye witnesses, neither Eighth Precinct police, nor the District Attorney's office have called them as witnesses so far. Fri. 6-4-48

Beauford, a veteran, suffered four skull fractures and was in a critical condition at Columbus Hospital for five days without any X-ray or medication, on the admission of Dr. Daniel Russo. The injured man was then moved to Bellevue hospital, from which he was recently discharged.

He has applied for admittance to a veterans' hospital, Beauford declared yesterday, but hospital doctors said he couldn't be admitted because there are still in his scalp **stitches which Bellevue doctors refuse to take out.**

COPS DENIED KNOWLEDGE

Daily Worker

On several occasions, Eighth precinct police denied knowledge of other victims, but the Daily Worker located and interviewed all of them. And each declared willingness to testify against the hoodlums.

One, Elisha Bethea, 980 St. Marks Ave., an employee of the East Houston Street Parking Station, scene of the attack, said yesterday, "no officer told me to come to court, so I didn't know about its coming up." New York, N.Y.

Detective Joseph Pickett yesterday claimed to Mrs. Bates he'd told Bethea to show up. He denied knowing anything about the other victims. They are James Graham, 30, and Virginia Dixon Graham, 21, of 30 Bainbridge; Venora Crosby, 23, 16 Schenectady Ave., and Leo Rush, who lives at 130 St. and Lenox Ave. Fri. 6-4-48

GOT EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

On May 2, the Daily Worker, got an eyewitness account of the attack from Gilbert Whitfield and Don Greene, visitors from Lansing, Mich. They told of trying to rescue the victims from a mob of 25, who were beating the Negroes with pipes and sticks. **Both Michigan men were held overnight and questioned in the Eighth Precinct.** They were then told to leave town.

So far police have arrested Salvatore Perez, 17, 20 Prince St.; Anthony Cappello, 17, 291 Elizabeth St.; Daniel Sgobbo, 17, 124 Mott St. and a 15 year-old whose name police have withheld. Perez and Salvatore are under $2,000 bail, and Sgobbo under $1,000 bail. Fri. 6-4-48

Beauford, weak and visibly suffering from the vicious beating he received, said yesterday, "Doesn't look like the cops want to get the guys that beat me." Mrs. Bates also expressed anger at the "slow way they're moving. If they were Negroes, I'll bet they wouldn't be slow."

Man Freed Under $500 Bond After Negro Boy Shot

The Record

13a

Columbia, S.C.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., May 26.—(UP)—John W. Price was free on $500 bond today pending trial in superior court on charges of shooting a 10-year-old Negro boy who crossed his wheat field. Wed.

Price denied the shooting of Johnny Jones at a hearing before Magistrate J. C. Cullem but was bound over for trial. 5-26-48

Mrs. Thelma Best and her son, George, Price's neighbors, testified they saw him shoot five times at the Negro boy and his sister as they crossed the wheat field Sunday afternoon. They said Price fired while sitting on his porch.

Dr. Kenneth Wilkins reported he removed a .22 caliber bullet from the boy's leg.

Chief of Police Joe Johnson said the youngster was in bad condition and "may lose his leg."

WOMEN TELL OF FEAR:

The Afro American

Would-Be Attackers Sent to Road Gangs

Sat 4-24-48

13a

Baltimore, Md.

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. — "For the past six months it has been so bad here until we could hardly walk out into the street without being approached by white men making indecent proposals," Miss Mary McDonald, speaking for herself and many girls she knows, told the AFRO this week.

Sat 4-24-48

The young woman's statement was made shortly after two white men, Clarence Jones and Robert L. Thames, were given road sentences totaling four years by Judge James MacRae, for assault.

Miss McDonald stated on April 1, she and Miss Ernestine McDonald en route to visit friends. As they approached the intersection of Russell St., and the old Wilmington Rd., Jones and Thames met them and made indecent proposals.

Sat 4-24-48

The two men were each charged with assaulting each girl and were found guilty on all counts. Two-year jail sentences were imposed in each case.

White Who Slugged Negro Fined $100

The Defender

13a

MOBILE, Ala.—Judge Tisdale J. Touart reversed the pattern of dixie justice last week by fining D. R. Tatum, a garage owner, $100 for striking a Negro youth with a soft drink bottle.

[illegible]

Chicago, Ill

Tatum struck Julius R. Pollard jr. in the head when the youth refused to rewash a car belonging to a friend of the garage owner.

13a 1948

Ohio (Reuther)

Attempt To Murder Walter Reuther Shocks And Arouses All Of Labor

News Digest 4-28-48

13a

B'ham, Ala

DETROIT — The shocking attempt to murder United Auto Workers - CIO President Walter Reuther has aroused the labor movement of Detroit and of the United States. From CIO and AFL spokesmen have come messages of cheer to the severely wounded leader and his family. Political foes of Reuther as well as his own and other unions have offered to pay well for information leading to the conviction of his assailant.

The Alabama State CIO Council, holding its Ninth Constitutional Convention in Montgomery, Ala., adopted a resolution expressing "sincerest sympathies' 'to Mrs. Reuther and hoping for a "speedy recovery to this great leader of labor."

When Reuther was first able to see law enforcement officials in the hospital he said that the attacker would prove to be "an agent of management, or the Communist Party, or a screwball."

4-28-48

Four days after the cowardly would-be murderer fired into the kitchen of Reuther's home while he and his wife were preparing a late snack after a UAW executive board meeting, police and an army of amateur detectives had turned up little evidence, so far as the public could learn.

A neighbor reported that the assassin got away in a red two-door sedan. Police found a shotgun shell wadding in the yard, and footprints seemed to indicate that three men had been involved in the crime.

UAW members, none of them "Reutherites"—four "left-wingers" and a discredited garage mechanics' local leader—had been held for questioning, but four of them were quickly released. The man held was Nelson Davis, a minor officer in Ford Local 600. An informant whom police refused to name had told them that shortly after the shooting Davis had said he knew who did it. When questioned Davis denied that he had made any such statement or that hed had any knowledge of the attempt on Reuther's life.

Police Chief Harry S. Toy, a former Ford attorney, accepted Reauther's own list of possible criminal types and added to it the category of non-Communist anti-Reuther unionists—people who have been ousted from union jobs since the Reuther forces won in last year's UAW convention.

Only conclusive news to develop since the shooting last Tuesday have been doctor's assurances that Reuther will be able to continue functioning as one of America's most dynamic trade union leaders.

Always anti-union, Detroit's two leading dailies, the Free Press and the News have been bellowing that the insane attack upon Reuther by a handful of criminals proved that the UAW isn't a responsible union.

Refuting the newspapers' charge is the statement issued by the UAW board shortly after Reuther was shot: "The International Executive Board is not prepared at this time to make any charges or accusations against any individuals or groups. We have received no concrete information that would from the basis of charges or accusations."

4-28-48

"We want, with the greatest emphasis, to caution all of our members against permitting themselves to be led into any kind of hasty and ill-advised action against any individuals within or without the union. The last thing that President Reuther or the Board would want is for any innocent person or persons to suffer in any way, regardless of who they are, as a result of this attack."

The UAW has posted a $100,000 reward for the apprehension of Walter Reuther's assailant, the Detroit City Council $10,000, the AFL Teamsters Union $5000 and UAW locals and other groups have brought the total to $117,800. Secretary-treasurer Emil Mazey said htat some locals are ready to pledge their entire treasuries if the union thinks that will help.

Police, so far baffled themselves, have offered full protection and confidential treatment to informants.

"Speedy recovery" messages have poured in from all over the country—from AFL as well as CIO leaders. Frank Martell, president of the Wayne County Federation of Labor, offered to be a bloor-donor. One will-wisher was David Lemis, secretary of Canada's labor party, the Cooperative Commonmealth Federation.

UAW leaders here, entering into tough wage battles with Chrysler and GM, hope that Detroit police, whom none of them think too kindly of, knuckle down to a little hard work, and don't resort to the dragnet tactics that Chief Toy has threatened. A few days after the attempted murder Toy said that he intended to question every foe that the hard-fighting union President has ever had.

Bolton, Reuther Never Fought, Associates Say

13a Free Press

Ohio

Fri 10-8-48

Sources close to UAW(CIO) President Walter P. Reuther believe that if Carl Bolton was the man who shot Reuther he did so as a hired assassin.

There never was any bad blood between Boltor and Reuther, these sources contended.

* * *

NEITHER WAS THERE ever any affinity, political or otherwise.

Detroit, Mich

As a delegate to the 1946 convention, at which Reuther unseated R. J. Thomas for the presidency, Bolton cast his ballot for Thomas.

At the 1947 convention Bolton distinguished himself by selling unofficial campaign buttons on the Atlantic City Boardwalk.

* * *

HERE HE WAS quite neutral. To Reutherites Bolton purveyed Reuther buttons. To the left-wing rooters he sold buttons emblazoned with the name of George F. Addes.

"Altough Reuther knew Bolton by sight, he never spent so much as a minute's time in private conversation with him," a Reuther aide declared.

Fri 10-8-48

Hence, many Reuther followers contended Thursday that if Bolton pulled the trigger last April it was done because he was paid to do it.

Reuther refused to comment, other than to say Bolton's arrest was "a matter for police."

Police Officers On Trial For Brutalizing Negro

Atlanta, Ga. 13a Daily World

Fri. 7-2-48

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (SNS) — State and defense attorneys in the trial of the two former police officers charged with asault to murder and beating of a Negro man, Ell Blaine, were charging the jury late Wednesday afternoon as the case neared its conclusion. The case tried in Second Criminal Court, marked the second time within three years that two police officers had been dismissed from the force, and subsequently indicted for acts of miss-treatment of Negroes. In 1945, two officers were charged with criminal assault on two Colored girls.

Greenfield Polk, assistant in the attorney general's office started the state's argument to the jury, in the trial of L. E. Bryant and C. W. Brewer, charged with assault to murder— beating Ell Blaine, Negro employe of the Firestone Service Station, at 4:05 p. m. the second day of the trial.

The state has rested its case at 4:30 Tuesday afternoon after presenting its two strongest witnesses. Dr. John E. Carne and Dr. John T. Walsh of John Gaston Hospital where Blaine was taken for treatment by the two officers for treatment of his left eye. Officer Bryant was charged with having struck Blaine on the jaw, when the service station employe accused the officer of having taken $10 from his wallet when he was searched by the officer at 203 South Lauderdale, his home.

The defense attorneys, Preston Battle for Bryant, and Robert G. Watkins for Brewer, limited their questions to:

"Could the wounds have been caused by any blunt instrument?"

And the physicians replies were a slow and hesitating-It is possible."

Charles Rond, assistant attorney general, and Mr. Polk asked the physicians what in their opinion, was the instrument used to inflict Blaine's wounds, and to explain to the jury what happened and in what manner Blaine was received at the hospital.

Dr. Carne stated that he was in the receiving room when Blaine was brought in by the police officers, after midnight on May 15. Fri.

The physicians said that Blaine's right eye was protruding on the cheek. That there was also an injury below the right eye and over the left eye, and two cuts on the back of his head. Dr. Walsh later removed the right eye, as he said it was impossible to save it. Both resident doctors of the hospital said that the type of the man's wounds indicated he had been struck "with force" with a blunt instrument. Both stated that they found no trace of glass or foreign matter in Blaine eyes. 7-2-48

Dr. Carne under cross examination by Mr. Battle, said he smelled alcohol on the defendants breath but that he was not drunk, in his opinion. Daily World

The defending attorneys line of questioning throughout the trial indicated that they would plead self defense for their clients, and that they hoped to prove Blaine was injured when he tried to escape from the officers' car as they entered the hospital grounds.

The trial opened Monday and the entire day was consumed in selecting the jury. Atlanta, Ga.

The first witness for the Prosecution Tuesday Morning was Ell Blaine who was questioned by Charles Rond, assistant attorney general.

Blaine, a rather small man and little if any over five feet tall related his activities of the night of May 15. He said that he and his wife and her sister and husband had attended a picture show about 8 o'clock that evening. Later the two men had bought a pint of whiskey and the four had visited the Harlem cafe after whch they returned home. They occupy apartment 6, at the Lauderdale address, and there was a disturbance going on in apartment 7, across the hall.

Blaine was called into apartment 7, to quite a woman occupant and while there the officers, Bryant and Brewer entered. Blaine testified that the officers ordered hands up, and Blaine stated that he raised his hands while officer Bryant "patted him down". Blaine stated that officers told every one who was not an occupant of the apartment to go home, and for the occupants to go to bed. That, if they had to return they would arrest all of them.

Blaine said that upon returning to his room, he removed his wallet from the back hip pocket and found the $10 he had put in it for safe keeping, was gone, but that he had a $5 in his front right shirt pocket. He said he was facing the wall with his back to the officers and that he didn't know which one had "patted him down" and searched his billfold." Atlanta, Ga.

How much money did you have when the officers "patted you down" asked attorney Rond. Fri.

"I had $15. and 15 cents worth of change— a $10 bill in my billfold, $5 in my shirt pocket and 15 cents in my left back pocket."

When I found my $10 was gone I went to room 4 in the same building and called Mr. Sam Holt at the Firestone station and told him about my money. He told me he was busy and to come down to the station. He was there and his son, Mr. Jack Holt, was there too. I told Mr. Sam what had happened. He wanted to see if I was lying, and made me turn my pockets out. Then he ran his hand in my shirt pocket and pulled out my $5 bill. He said 'here's your money Blaine' I told him that wasn't the money I was talking about. I owed the $10 on a note I had to pay. I was saving it for that purpose so I wouldn't spend it." Atlanta, Ga.

"Mr. Sam wanted to know if I still wanted to call the oficers. I said, yes. He called and a settled man with braid on his cap and a young man in a squad car, came. I went to the car and talked with the settled man. I told him I was searched and missed $10. He told me to see Capt. Jefferies. I went to the police station and talked to Mr. Capt. Jefferies. I told him what had happened. He looked in my pocketbook, and called another officer. Inspector Dwyer." 7-2-48

"I went to another room and talked to Inspector Dwyer. Then he called the police who were at apartment 6 on Lauderdale street. Inspector Dwyer asked them did they get the call to Lauderdale Street, they said yes. He said 'this boy accuses you of taking his money. One of them asked did I accuse them. I said, yes. One of them struck me, I don't know which one. I was looking at Inspector Dwyer. I grabbed my face, as the blow threw me against the wall, and my glasses fell off and I heard something break.

As the attorney presented the pair of eye glasses, with the left lens broken, but the right lens intact, it was still unexplained how Blaine came to lose his right eye.

I fell over when I was hit. My glasses disappeared— I don't know what happened to them at the time.

"The Inspector said 'take him out' Blaine lunged forward pushing down the front seat to reach the front door of the car, and fell out of the car on the concrete drive. They stated that they picked him up by the arms, but didn't notice his new injuries until they had reached the inside of the hospital.

They stated that at no time did Blaine cover his face with his hands not even to wipe the blood from the left side of his face which started bleeding at the police station.

Blaine's white stripped pants was exhibited but showed no signs of dirt or tear from his fall on the concrete, and his light green shirt was soaked in blood— front and back Daily World

THE JURY

The jury selecton was completed late Tuesday. Members of the jury are:

W. E. Bibgee, carpenter, 3751 Fair Oaks. Atlanta, Ga.

Andrew C. Jennings, International Harvester Co., employe, 2680 Dunn

M L Bell, operator Bell Transfer Co., 137 N. Willett.

J. P. Vaughn, Cold Press Mil 2022 Young. Fri.

R. L. McConnell, American Fidelity & Casualty Insurance Co., 9 N. McLean. 7-2-48

J. V. Tillman, interior decorator 922 New York.

Elbert A. Bond, student, Southern College of Watchmaking, 3524 Kallaher.

C. H. Alexander, general contractor, 3611 Macon Road.

John T. McCutchen, employe Pidgeon-Thomas Iron Co., 1010 Brooks.

J. W. Eaton, Railway Express chauffeur, 373 Hollywood.

Linsey E Smith, Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., plant employe, 520 Eastern Drive.

Fred P. Marshall, barber shop operator, 1430 Jefferson.

One of the policemen said let us out the side door. One had me by the belt and I had my hands up. They put me in the squad car, and one got in the back seat with me. They started driving. When I got to the hospital I didn't know where I was. I couldn't see." Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Rond asked Blaine what he said to the officers as they left the station. Blaine said "I asked them if they were going to kill me?" They said they ought to kill me and told me, "You won't talk no more." On the way to the hospital, they whipped me across my head and across my lap. I'd move my hands up and down, trying to protect myself." Blaine indicated with his hands how he moved them from over his face to his lap. Daily World

"Did you try to get out of the car after you left the police station," asked Mr. Rond.

"No, sir." Atlanta Ga.

"Did you fall out of the squad car or try to jump out?" Fri.

"No, sir— I was sitting in one corner." 7-2-48

"What were you hit with?"

"They hit me with some sort of hand instrument. They couldn't have hit that hard with their hands. The doctor told me he could save one eye but not the other one.

Dr. Carne testified that while Blaine was on the table, he asked him to look in his vest pocket and get a $5 bill that was in the pocket and keep it for his wife. The physicians said he explained to Blaine that doctors and nurses could not take patients money, that he would have to turn it in at the desk. He said he then gave the five dollar bill to Blaine, but when he took it out of the pocket he discovered a wad of money n his pocket which proved to be $9.10. He said Blaine told him that was not his money. That he only had $5 in his pocket. All the money was turned into the hospital desk. Fri.

On questioning, Dr. Carne testified that sometime later, perhaps an hour, the two police officers returned to the hospital and asked about the money found in Blaine's pocket. Daily World

Bryant took the stand Wednesday morning. He denied the charges made by Blaine, and stated that he and Brewer returned to the hospital when they received a call through the police station that officer Turner, stationed at the hosital wanted to see them about the money found in Blaine's shirt pocket. Atlanta, Ga.

Inspector Dwyer related the incident at the police station when Blaine accused the officers of takink his money, and said that Blaine told several conflicting stories about the money, and even accused Inspector Dwyer, or rather gave the impression that he was involved in the disappearance of the $10 by saying 'You know all about it."

Blaine stated that he had been arrested once for being drunk and once for gambling But said he had never served time in the workhouse.

C. W. Brewer followed Bryant on the witness stand and gave much the same version as Bryant of how Blaine received the injury that cost him his right eye. 7-2-48

Suspect Shot, Walks 32 Miles to Police

The Courier

Sat-3-27-48 Pittsburg, Pa

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A Nashville man, himself wounded, walked thirty-two miles to Murfreesboro and gave himself up to police last Wednesday after allegedly trying to force his attentions on a white woman and shooting her.

The man, Joe Samuel Williams 32, of 209 Twelfth Avenue, South, was returned from Murfressboro by Inspector E. C. Burgess and four officers and held in city jail on charges of assault with intent to commt murder and carrying a pistol. The woman, Mrs. Gladys Mofield, 30, of 2241 Grandview Avenue, was in General Hospital suffering from a bullet wound in her mouth and cheek. She was said to be in fair condition.

Williams, although he suffered a flesh wound in his leg and an elbow wound from the gunfire of a neighbor of Mrs. Mofield, who came to her assistance, said he spent Tuesday night walking to Murfreesboro.

13a 1948

Texas

Beating Bares Texas Peonage

Special to the Daily Worker

AUSTIN, Texas, July 19.—The brutal whipping of a Negro parolee-farm laborer has brought new demands for investigating peonage resulting from collusion between parole authorities and plantation owners. Local Negro and progressive organizations became aroused after John Roe, 40-year-old Negro, was beaten last week by his plantation boss for attempting to take his infant son to a doctor.

Roe, who was paroled to Tom Moore after serving 21 years in prison for a teen-age offense, described his beating and the conditions on the Moore farm from his hospital cot in a local hospital.

Both the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Communist Party, upon learning of the incident, demanded action by authorities.

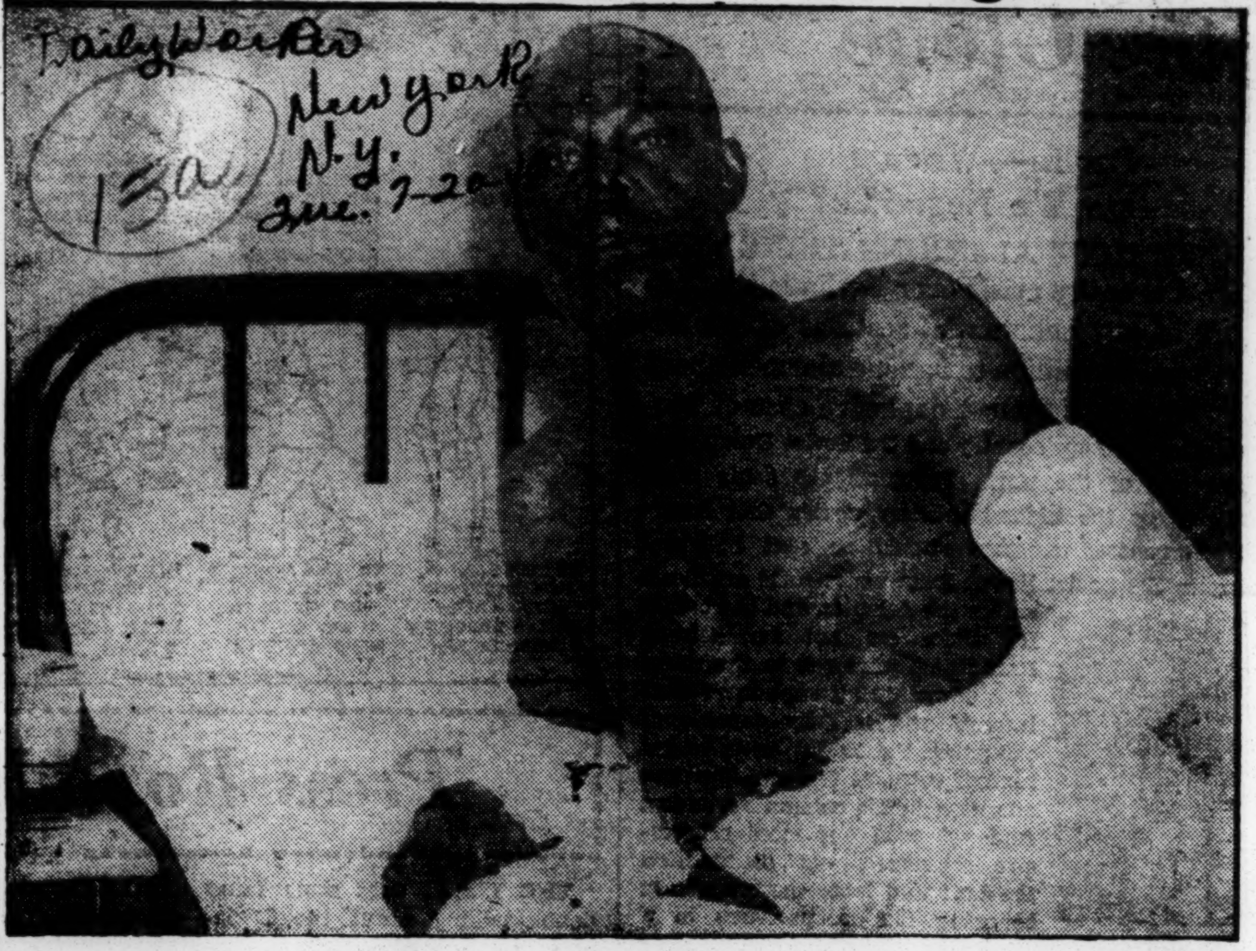
The Communist Party of Texas, in a telegram to Gov. Beauford Jester, demanded an investigation of the Roe beating, protection for his wife and child, still on the Moore farm and the arrest of Moore. James H. Morton, chairman of the Austin branch of the NAACP, headed a delegation which visited various state offices demanding action on the case.

State and local officials were either indifferent or contemptuous when questioned. Judge Abner L. Lewis, chairman of the Board of Pardon and Paroles, said that Roe would be sent to another county but that nothing would be done to help him prosecute Tom Moore.

NON-COMMITTAL

A. D. Grant, county attorney of Brazos County, where the incident occurred, claimed to know nothing of it. E. E. Dedmon, Sheriff of Grimes County, in which Moore lives, admitted that he had heard that "some n----r had got beat up" and upon learning that Roe was still alive he offered: "Must notta give 'im a goodun."

Chief Joe Fletcher, asistant director of the Department of Public Safety, speaking for the local police, said he thought the Rangers (state police) were conducting the investigation. Truman Stone, Texas Ranger, said the case had been turned over to the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Department of Public Safety. He explained that it was difficult to do anything in a case like this.



Daily Worker
New York
N.Y.
Jue. 7-20-4

13a

John Roe, Negro farm laborer, in a n Austin, Texas, hospital as a result of a beating with a pistol at the hands of Tom Moore, plantation owner to whom he was paroled.

Groups, rallying to Roe's defense, are determined to discover and expose the true relationship between the State Board of Pardons and Paroles and the powerful landowners in the Brazos river-bottom plantation area.

Roe, on parole from the notorious Texas Prison Farm System, has revealed that "four or five" of his fellow workers on the Tom Moore plantation are also parolees. Local officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People recall that a similar case last year also involved a paroled man. Daily Worker

APPALLING CONDITIONS

Roe's beating and escape from the plantation is focusing attention on the appalling conditions on the huge farms. N.Y. N.Y.

"Mr. Moore makes the men on parole work harder than the others," Roe said when questioned in the hospital. This contention was supported by a Negro attorney who asked that his name be withheld. "Parolees can well be sent back to prison if their employer makes an unfavorable report," he said. "Besides, many of the farm owners are themselves parole officers, it appears."

Roe says that when he came to the plantation, Moore told him, "If you try to quit work, you go gack to prison."

Moore's plantation hires some 45 Negro men, women and children who work an 80-hour week. The men get a wage of $16.50. Women and children are paid only $15. Using modern cultivators and tractors, worked with wage-labor, the Moore plantation utilizes the same oppressive pattern of the old share-cropping plantations in the deep South. Worker N.Y. N.Y.

SIMILAR CASE

Jue. 7-20-48

Records of the local branch of the NAACP reveal a similar pattern in the case of Will Jackson last year. Jackson had run away from another of the large plantations near Navasota, this one being owned by Harry Moore (Tom Moore's brother).

He became involved in an argument with the overseer the day after a worker had been beaten to death on the farm. Fearing for his own life, he escaped. Jackson also reported special intimidation of parolees.

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles seem particularly anxious to close the Roe case. Judge Abner Lewis, board chairman, told a student reporter from the University of Texas that the case was "finished."

When asked if the board would help Roe collect damages, he replied: "No!" Questioned further, he became curious and cursed the young reporter for his "attitude" toward "that n----r."

Another parole official has stated that Roe is to be "transferred" as soon as he can leave the hospital.

In its telegram to Gov. Beauford Jester the Communist Party of Austin said: "Is it possible that the state Parole Board and Mr. Moore have an understanding regarding cheap laborers who will be afraid to resist the worst kind of oppression, even peonage, for fear of being sent back to prison?"

The telegram, widely distributed as a leaflet, demanded "an immediate investigation into the John Roe case in all its implications."

Refuse to Extradite Fireman Who Shot Wife's Lover in '21

The Courier
Sat 10-30-48
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CHICAGO—(ANP) — Archie Bellamy's tale of mistreatment after having served an eight-year term of a life imprisonment on an Alabama chain gang for the murder of a man, his subsequent escape to the North and the misfortunes which attended him, brought his unconditional release from extradition proceedings in the Cook County criminal court here last Wednesday.

Opposing counsel for the State of Alabama, Assistant State's Atty. James V. Cunningham and Walter L. McCoy, was Atty. William Henry Huff, who had entered a writ of habeus corpus in the U. S. District Court early in the summer, dismissed it and filed anew in the Criminal Court, since both courts have jurisdiction in extradition cases.

Sat 10-30-48

FOUND MAN IN BED

Before presiding Chief Justice McDermott, Bellamy recounted a story which had its beginning in 1921. He said that while working as a fireman on the railroad he doubled back to his home in Alabama and found a man in bed with his wife, that the man jumped up, rushed to the center table for a weapon with which to kill him, and that he took his gun from over the door and killed the man.

At his trial, no witnesses were allowed to testify in his behalf. His common-law wife was forced by the prosecution to swear that she did not know him although she had lived with him for five years and given birth to two children for him. He was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged, but through the intervention of a friend, succeeded in obtaining a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment from Governor Kilby.

BRUTALLY BEATEN

Bellamy told the court that the Governor personally came to see him in the penitentiary and told him that if he served eight years, he would see that he was released. Kilby. however, died before the eight years were up, and the chaingang authorities became angry with the prisoner, beating and kicking out certain organs of his body and leaving him to die.

Bellamy said he crawled into a swamp where he remained for three days with the help of friends and then made his way to Chicago. He became an exemplary citizen, purchasing a truck and starting a trucking business. One day he accidentally ran over a woman and killed her. Knowing that he would be returned to Alabama because of this accident, he fled from the scene, but later contacted police from Detroit and turned himself in.

Sat 10-30-48

GIVEN EIGHT YEARS

The lawyer he hired for his defense did not appear in court to represent the man, although he had been given title to the truck. Bellamy was sentenced to eight years in the Illinois Penitentiary for manslaughter. Still facing extradition to Alabama, Bellamy retained Attorney Huff during the latter days of his term in the Illinois Penitentiary. The attorney filed a writ of habeas corpus in U. S. District Court early in the summer, and after a reasonable time, dismissed the petition and filed anew in the Criminal Court.

After oral arguments had been completed by both sides, the court ruled favorably upon Attorney Huff's motion that extradition papers be refused the State of Alabama.

Extradition to Ala. Chain Gang Denied

The Afro-American

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Archie Bellamy's tale of mistreatment after having served an eight-year term of a life imprisonment on an Alabama chain gang for the murder of a man, his subsequent escape to the North and the misfortunes which attended him, brought his unconditional release from extradition proceedings in the Cook County criminal court last Wednesday.

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Baltimore, Md.

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Court Refuses Extradition Of Ala. Fugitive

Daily World

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Archie Bellamy's tale of mistreatment after having served an eight year term of a life imprisonment on an Alabama chaingang for the murder of a man, his subsequent escape to the north and the misfortines which attended him, brought his unconditional release from extradition proceedings in the Cook county criminal court here last Wednesday.

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Fri 10-29-48

Before presiding Chief Justice McDermott, Bellamy recounted a story which had its beginning in 1921. He said that while working as a fireman on the railroad, he doubled back to his home in Alabama and found a man in bed with his wife, that the man jumped up, rushed to the center table for a weapon with which to kill him, and that he took his gun from over the door and killed the man.

Atlanta, Ga.

He was tried found guilty and sentenced to hang, but through the intervention of a friend, succeeded in obtaining a commutation of sentence to life imprisonment from Gov. Kilby.

Bellamy told the court that the governor personally came to see him in the penitentiary and told him that if he served eight years, he would see that Bellamy was released. Kilby, however, died before the eight years were up, and the chaingang authorities became angry with the prisoner, beating and kicking out certain organs of his body and leaving him to die.

The prisoner crawled into a swamp where he remained for three days with the help of friends and then made his way to Chicago. He bacame an exemplary citizen, purchased a truck and started a trucking business. One day he accidentally ran over a woman and killed her. Knowing that he would be returned to Alabama because of this accident, he fled the scene, but later contacted police from Detroit and turned himself in.

Negro Boy Prefers Prison In Alabama To Liberty In North

The News
Birmingham, Ala.
Sat 8-28-48

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Sept. 2—"Judge, this is the boy who said he preferred to be in an Alabama penitentiary than a free man in Chicago," said Solicitor J. Monroe Ward, as J. M. Brown, 17-year-old Negro came forward and pled guilty of grand larceny in Circuit Court here Monday.

He was sentenced by Circuit Judge Warren to 18 months.

Brown was brought from Chicago by Deputy Sheriff Foss Wright, who had been notified by the Police Department in that city, that the Negro had volunteered information of his guilty and wanted to come home. He was charged with stealing $800 from Holman Lumber Company in Northport. 8-28-48

Others sentenced on pleas of guilty as the court opened yesterday were: Harvey C. Bates, Sumter S. C., four years for forgery; Jackie Coogan Cary, Cullman, Ala., three years in each of three cases for forgery; Thomas King, Northport, $100 fine and six months labor for using another's car without his consent; Walter Foster, Negro, a year and a day for distilling; Clarence Frost, year and a day for larceny; W. L. Pierce, R. A. Booth and M. Patrick, year and a day for distilling.

13b 1948

Alabama (Kansas)

Refuses To Send Man Back To Alabama

(13b)

The Call
June 4-2-48

TOPEKA. — On Wednesday Governor Frank Carlson turned down a request of the State of Alabama for the extradition of Johnnie Atkins wanted in that state to answer a four-year old charge of assault with intent to murder.

The request for extradition was presented by Sheriff [illegible] of Pickens County, Ala., to Governor Carlson in his office where an extended hearing was held.

Pickens County, Ala.

The Topeka branch of the N. A. A. C. P., the C. I. O., and American Veterans Committee were represented.

The Kansas chief executive made as the basis of his denying extradition the fact that Alabama authorities had known the whereabouts of Atkins but made no effort to apprehend him until the case had become stale.

Governor Carlson wrote a lengthy letter to Governor James Folsom of Alabama explaining why he refused to grant the extradition.

13b 1948

Alabama (Michigan)

Extradition Case Draws Local Aid

Pontiac [illegible]

Sat 12-11-48

Pontiac Michigan

Paw Paw, Alabama State officials are expected to be charged with kidnapping a local worker nd returning him to their state without proper authority.

Ed Drummer, an employee in car factory, was returned to Alabama last Nov. 18 to face charges of grand larceny. At- orneys for Drummer claim that ounty officials of Van Buren ounty were warned not to turn their client over to the Alabam [illegible] without extending to him he usual hearings granted in extradition cases.

Drummer's attorneys have al so asked federal authorities t investigate the case and indic the southern officials who car ied him south. The inquiry wa opened by Justice Glenn B. Huey of Paw Paw at the request of Prosecutor John Ver- ionk.

Negro Is Acquitted Of Larceny Charge

Montgomery Advertiser

Montgomery, Alabama

GADSDEN, ALA., Dec. 16—(AP)—A Negro whose extradition from Michigan brought complaints by a labor union to which he belonged has been acquitted on charges of grand larceny.

A jury acquitted Ed Drummer yesterday. He was accused of taking $1,500 from an aunt, Ida Cole, Gadsden.

Drummer testified he assisted his aunt in operating what he described as an illicit liquor business. He told the court the money could have been taken by any one of a large number of persons who came to his aunt's house.

Fri 12-17-48

Drummer's extradition from Michigan brought complaints by his CIO United Auto Workers Union local at South Haven, Mich.

13b 1948

Alabama (New Jersey)

Luverne Negro Fights Return

The Advertiser

Tells New Jersey Official Rights Are Endangered Via Assault Charge

Wed 11-10-48

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 9.—(AP)—A 25-year-old Negro wanted in Luverne, Ala. on charges of assaulting a white man told New Jersey officials today he "could only expect to have his constitutional rights violated" if he is returned to Alabama.

Montgomery Ala.

Heroid Provitt asked Gov. Driscoll to reject an extradition order from Alabama. Leon S. Milmed, associate counsel to the governor, heard the plea. He said he would make his recommendation to the governor within two weeks.

Provitt is accused of stabbing a white man Oct. 25, 1946. He said his father, Henry Profitt, is serving a three-to-five year sentence in Alabama for the same crime.

Heroid Provitt says he went to Newark in November, 1946, and worked for a mental concern until December, 1947, when he was arrested on an Alabama warrant.

At the hearing, he told this story:

Henry Provitt and a white man had a disagreement that went back more than 10 years. The day of the assault, the Provitt family was visiting a carnival, when the white man struck the elder Provitt. An argument followed. Henry Provitt and the white man then went to a nearby park where the latter received superficial cuts on the face. The younger Provitt said he did not witness the fight.

Wed 11-10-48

Provitt's appeal against extradition parallels a recent case in which John Colier, a fugitive from South Carolina, was arrested in New Jersey. After Colier served more than a year in Newark jail, Gov. Driscoll refused to send him back.

Luverne Negro Freed By New Jersey Court

The Advertiser

Thur 11-18-48

Montgomery Ala.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Nov. 17—(AP)—Herold Provitt, 25, of Luverne, Ala., who was arrested last December at the request of Alabama authorities on a warrant charging him with stabbing another man was released today on a court order.

Provitt, a Negro, was freed on a plea by Louis E. Sanders, a lawyer representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Sanders contended that the indictment returned in March of 1947 did not state the date and other data concerning the offense.

He told Judge Paul J. Duffy that Provitt should be freed because Alabama authorities failed to prove he was in the state at the time of the offense. He also produced records which he contended showed that Henry Provitt, father of Heroid, now is serving a 3-to-5 year sentence in Alabama for the same crime.

Thur 11-18-48

13b 1948

Alabama (Ohio)

2 NEGROES FACE RETURN TO SLAVERY

Daily Worker

By Elmer O. Fehlhaber

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio., March 15.—A father and his 16-year-old son are out on $1,000 bond each here while the state of Alabama is attempting to have the two brought back to a landlord who wants them to continue as virtual slaves.

(13b)

The case of the two, Sam Rivers, 47, ~~and~~ his son, ~~Sam~~ Rivers, Jr., has attracted the attention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the return of the sharecroppers will be oppened at a hearing before Governor Thomas Herbert.

Jres. 3/16 48

The state of Alabama has not yet made a specific charge against the two and has sought extradition on the basis of their being "fugitives from justice." A detailed charge must be placed before the hearing is conducted.

The case of the father and son is a picture of the most shameless kind of exploitation.

For the past three years Sam Rivers and his son sharecropped for a white landlord by the name of A. C. White near Clayton, Ala. During all that time Rivers, who would take his produce to the market and receive checks made out to White, never received any cash payment from the landlord. Because the checks were made out to White he has no record of his transactions.:

CAME TO YOUNGSTOWN

Last year Rivers, his son, daughter and wife worked 65 acres. At harvest time they turned over checks amounting to $1,000 to the landlord. In addition, White came to the farm and took from Rivers 150 bushels of sweet potatoes, sugar cane for 600 gallons, 390 bales of peanut hay and five hogs. The five hogs were the personal property of Rivers. He had raised them to feed his family.

According to the custom of the locality, Sam Rivers, Jr., was given a small portion of the farm to work. He cultivated two acres of peanuts and what he made from this was to be his. The father sold the peanuts in his son's name. Of $190 received the boy spent $69 for groceries and gave $30 to his sister who had worked on the farm for an entire year without receiving a cent.

After the harvest the father came to Youngstown where his two married daughters live. Here he found employment in the Republic Steel mill.

But shortly after his arrival here he received word that his son had been thrown in jail in Clayton and would be released only on payment of $100. Jres. 3-16-48

Mr. Rivers sent a telegraph order for $80 to the Clayton Alabama Banking Co. and in return he received a receipt for $350.57 signed by A. C. White. The boy was released and joined his father in Youngstown. Rivers assumed that neither he nor his boy would be bothered.

But on Feb. 28 he was arrested together with his son.

It is considered significant by Mrs. Leda Hartwell, attorney representing the NAACP, that the state of Alabama has not yet filed any specific charge. Undoubtedly, she explained, the state of Alabama hoped that Rivers and his son would waive extradition.

But neither Mr. Rivers nor his son are willing to return.

"I know why they want me back," he said. "Planting time is coming and they want us back on that farm."

Negro Group To Fight Tennessee Extradition

The News -

AKRON, Ohio, Aug. 26—(AP)—A fugitive who escaped from a Tennessee prison 25 years ago was promised help today from the National Association for Advancement of Colored People in his fight against extradition. 8-26-48

Leon Gordie, president of the Akron N. A. A. C. P. chapter, said his group would "fight with every means at our command" against a move to extradite Roy Hardy, 48, who was arrested here under the alias of Arthur Carter.

Detective Lt. George May said Hardy, who has lived in Akron for 20 years and has been employed by the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, was serving a 10 to 20 year sentence for assault and battery and attempted criminal assault when he escaped from Tennessee's Petros Prison in 1923. 8-26-48

The N. A. A. C. P. also has wired Gov. Thomas J. Herbert, asking for representation at the extradition hearing, Gordie reported.

Man, 22, Must Go Back: Says Guards Put Dogs on Him

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sat. 7-10-48

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A desperate fight to escape return to the Montgomery County prison to complete serving a one-year prison sentence was lost last week in Pittsburgh, Pa., when a judge in that city ordered that Ulysses Gibson, 22-year-old Alabaman, be returned to this State. Extradition papers had already been issued by Pennsylvania Governor James H. Duff.

Convicted of stealing a shirt from a local department store in 1947, Gibson was given the one year term. He escaped after having served seven months and fled to the North. He was arrested recently after applying for a mill job in West Mifflin, a Pittsburgh suburb.

"SIXTEEN DOGS"

Gibson charged that sixteen "ferocious" dogs had been loosed on him at the local prison when he refused to obey a "minor" rule. He claimed the dogs chewed him considerably and showed scars which he said their teeth had left on his legs. As further punishment he got twenty-one lashes on his back, Gibson told Pennsylvania authorities when seeking his freedom on a writ of habeas corpus.

Gibson's Alabama connection was revealed when his fingerprints were checked against FBI records after he applied for the mill job. Although Governor Duff had granted the extradition request from Alabama, Gibson won a brief respite when Pittsburgh Judge Frank P. Patterson allowed him a habeas corpus hearing. 7-10-48

At that hearing, presiding Judge Henry X. O'Brien ruled that his power was limited to ruling solely on Gibson's actual record in the case. He then denied the plea for the habeas corpus writ, and Gibson must now return to the prison from which he escaped a little over a year ago. Sat.

Indiana Judge Bars Extradition

Chicago

Defender Chicago

Sat 9-18-48

MUNCIE, Ind.—Circuit Judge Joseph Davis ruled here last week that John Ware, 48, is not a fugitive from Arkansas justice and need not be returned there to face charges as an alleged parole violator.

Ware, who has been sleeping in the police station for safety and going to work from there, was wanted by Arkansas for allegedly breaking parole after he had served 15 years of a life sentence that was later commuted to 30 years for the killing of a farmer. Ware was paroled to his attorney and, he told Judge Davis, reportedly faithfully to him until told he need not do so any longer. After that he came to Indiana under the name Frank C. Brown. His record in this state has been excellent.

INDIANA PROTECTS ARKANSAS NEGRO

(The Associated Press)

Indianapolis, Sept. 10.—Indiana has refused to send a 48-year-old Negro back to Arkansas as an alleged parole violator.

An Arkansas request for the extradition of John Ware, 48, was denied Thursday at a hearing by Ruel W. Steele, executive secretary to Gov. Ralph F. Gates.

Judge Joseph Davis of Delaware circuit court in Muncie, where Ware has been working in a foundry, also had refused to approve Ware's extradition.

Ware had been sentenced to life imprisonment on a murder charge in Arkansas 15 years ago. His term was reduced later to 30 years and he was paroled. He said he reported regularly to his atorney until told it was no longer necessary, then came to Indiana.

13b 1948 Delaware (Pennsylvania)

'DIXIE' JUSTICE LOSES OUT

Daily Worker

(13P)

PHILADELPHIA.—William Jackson walked out of prison last week, a free man.

For three months, William Jackson, guilty of no crime, was held entombed in jail, awaiting death by hanging. He would, in fact, probably have been hung by now if his ailing mother had not gotten him a lawyer and kept fighting to prove his innocence.

Dec 11-14-48

William Jackson, Negro, is a free man today because the police happened to turn up another man, Alfred Collins, who they now say is the real criminal in the Delaware and Jersey assault cases with which Jackson was charged.

"It was a case of 'mistaken identity'." That's the way the police now blithely excuse their railroading of an innocent American citizen, a family breadwinner and father of four children.

Lawyers familiar with court tactics against Negroes believe that Jackson would have been railroaded to his death in short order, if Collins had not turned up.

New York N.Y.

★

FOR THE COURTS were pushing the innocent man inexorably to his death. Jackson was "identified" by the victims of the Jersey and Delaware assaults. He was then scheduled for extradition to Delaware, where he was to be whipped and hung by the neck until he was dead.

Judge Gerald Flood had okayed his extradition despite six witnesses who confirmed Jackson's alibi. Jackson's lawyer had appealed the extradition to the Superior Court, where it was pending at the time Collins was arrested and Jackson's innocence became transparent.

★

EVEN THEN police tried briefly to frame Jackson as an "accomplice" in the assault for which he had originally been wrongly indicted—though no accomplice had ever before been mentioned.

How could it happen, people are asking, that Jackson was held guilty of such a crime, until he was proven without possible doubt to be innocent?

Dec 11-14-48

It could happen, lawyers are convinced, only because Jackson was a Negro. The police excuse that Collins and Jackson looked like "twin brothers" becomes ludicrous at a mere glance at the photographs of the two men.

★

JACKSON, it is believed, was a victim of the police theory that any Negro can be held for any crime committed by another Negro.

13b 1948

Florida (Pennsylvania)

Florida Refused Negro on Charge 20 Years Old

[illegible] (Pa)

Philadelphia, Nov. 4 (AP).—Judge Louis E. Levinthal refused today to grant extradition of a Negro to Florida where he is accused of escaping from prison about 20 years ago. [illegible] 11-5-48

The Negro is Tom Johnson alais William T. Jones. Judge Levinthal said Johnson was arrested here in 1929 on robbery charges but Florida authorities advised that the State did not want to bear the expense of returning him due to the briefness of his sentence. Johnson since has served a sentence on the charge here.

Use New Southern Extradition Angle

The Call

Kansas City, Mo.

Unusual Move in L. C. Brown Case

By Samuel P. Perry Jr.

Fri. 7-30-48

BOSTON. — (ANP) — An entirely new angle in regard to the extradition case of L. C. Brown here in Massachusettes has been introduced.

The basic elements of the case against L. C. Brown are: (1) a trumped-up charge of forgery in Georgia; (2) the accidental killing of a Georgia chain-gang guard; (3) Brown's ability to operate a tractor, a source of uncompensated convict labor.

The original hearing of Brown's case was postponed from July 21 as scheduled by Atty. Gen. Clarence A. Barnes, to July 27. The change was primarily due to the use by southern authorities of a 35-year old federal statute prohibiting "flight to avoid prosecution" by crossing a state line. This latest move may possibly remove the case from the jurisdiction of Gov. Robert F. Bradford, who is definitely opposed to extradition.

A thoroughly unusual development in the case of extradition to southern "justice" is the receipt at the state house of letters from "leading" Negro citizens of Georgia. Curiously, these letters demand the extradition of Brown "to promote interracial harmony in Georgia." Included in the group sympathizing with southern "justice" are: Benjamin F. Hubert, executive secretary of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life, Mayfield, Ga.; the Rev. J. C. Mobley of New Bethel church, Hudson Grove, Ga.; J. W. Archibald, Greensboro, Ga.; H. A. Hughes, Pleasant Grove, Ga.; P. H. Chester, Bostwick, Ga.; and P. W. Lawrence Greensboro, Ga. 7-30-48

13b 1948

Georgia (Pennsylvania)

13b

Judge Sends Fugitive Back to Georgia Hell

Afro-American
Baltimore Md.

PHILADELPHIA

Judge Gerald F. Flood in Quarter Sessions Court, last Friday, ignored the tear-filled plea of Amos Eberhart, 30-year-old bell-and a fugitive from Georgia justice, and ordered him turned over to two sheriffs from Atlanta for extradition.

Pa 8-28-48

Eberhart told the court a tragic story of his arrest in Georgia and a visit from "the blackshirts" to his home after he was released on bond. He climaxed the narrative by telling Judge Flood, amid tears, that, "I would be killed if I go back there."

Fair Trial Promised

Georgia's request that Eberhart be extradited was granted when Deputy Sheriff O. C. Puckett of Fulton county (Atlanta) told the jurist he did not know of an organization called the "blackshirts," and gave assurance that the fugitive would be protected and given a fair trial in Atlanta.

Judge Flood said, after hearing the Georgia sheriff, "We can't ignore a warrant from another State in a case like this," adding that there was "no proof" that law officers were involved in the alleged attack on Eberhart.

Photos Support Fugitive

When asked by the jurist if they had routine photographs of the fugitive following his arrest in Atlanta, the sheriffs produced pictures which showed Eberhart with his head bandaged.

Eberhart testified as follows: "That after he was arrested on a minor charge last May 8 in the Atlanta Hotel where he was employed, he was released in $2,000 bail, then went to his home outside the city.

Blackshirts' Visit

"That same night 'the blackshirts' came and got me. Some men wearing black shirts and black masks took me five or six miles out of town, beat me with a slat, then tied me with a rope behind an automobile. Another car was following.

"I ran as long as I could, then I fell down and was dragged—and that's all I remember until I woke up the next morning in some woods two miles from the highway."

Asked by Judge Flood, "Were the men police officers?" Eberhart replied, "I couldn't tell for sure but I think they were."

Ran After 2nd Visit

The fugitive testified further that after he got medical treatment, he went home to his wife and six children.

Pa

He said that night he hid in the woods next to the house and saw the cars drive up with the same men. He then ran away. Sat

Eberhart was arrested here on Aug. 10 and Thomas Reed, his attorney, was given a week to prepare his defense. 8-28-48

13b

Man Weeps Openly to Escape Georgia 'Justice'

Northwest Enterprise

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—The picture of a 30-year-old fugitive from Georgia weeping openly before a Philadelphia court, and two sheriffs from Georgia waiting to take him back, was more than several spectators could stand last week as Amos Eberhart cried to Judge Gerald Flood that his return meant certain death.

Wed 9-1-48
Seattle Wash.

Pa

Atty. Thomas Reed, defense counsel, was given a week to prepare additional defense for Eberhart and to solicit funds to fight the tearful prisoner's case.

Atlanta Slay Charge Holds Man in North

The Constitution

Edward J. Foltz, special agent in charge of the FBI office in Atlanta, announced late yesterday that FBI agents in Pittsburgh, Pa., have arrested Emerson Hector, 20, Negro, and are holding him for extradition to Atlanta on an indictment for murder.

Wed 9-1-48
Atlanta Ga.

Hector is charged by the Fulton County Grand Jury with the murder of Lonnie Broughton, Negro, in April, 1947. The killing, the indictment charges, took place at 55 Central Ave., S. W. Following the affair, Hector fled from the State.

Hector, whose Atlanta address was 788 Connally St., S. E., is now in custody of the United States Marshall at Pittsburgh.

Warren Holds Decision In Wiley King Case

The Reporter
San Francisco, Calif
Fri 7-30-48

SACRAMENTO.—Wiley King's future depends on what the Governor of California, the Republican vice presidential candidate, says to the Governor of Mississippi, the Dixiecrat vice presidential candidate, regarding an extradition application. Two score witnesses declared at an extradition hearing that the outcome would have national, perhaps broad implications as a civilian rights issue.

Wiley King, 45, is a Negro. When he was 21 years old—in 1925 back in Mississippi —he went on a rabbit hunt near Tylertown.

Returning, he says, three Negro brothers waylaid him, armed with pistols. Shots were exchanged and one of the trio, Percy Dillon, dropped to the ground. He died the next day. King maintains he himself was wounded in the shoulder.

The Reporter

There was an agreement between the witnesses and the State of Mississippi as to facts on only a few points. King, now a partner in a grocery store at Oakland, is under arrest there. He admitted he is the man wanted by Mississippi for having escaped from a Southern prison at Parchman.

7-30-48

Mississippi contends he pleaded guilty to murder; was indicted by a grand jury and found guilty by "12 good men and true".

Attorney Robert Treuhaft, Oakland, appearing for the defendant, said King didn't plead guilty; didn't have a jury trial; was not indicted by a grand jury; was not given the benefit of cousel; was not told he need not testify against himself; and was not advised of any other civil rights, and was "tried" in 10 minutes.

San Francisco Calif

Further, said Treuhaft, King was not knowingly a fugitive. King's story, he related, was that he paid a white guard $250 to get him a pardon from a Mississippi Governor (name unmentioned); was told the pardon had been signed; that he could leave the camp at the end of his day's work, which he did, and that "the papers" would be mailed to him. He left his sister's Arkansas address with the guard.

Spokesmen for King represented church, labor, political, civic, civil rights and other organizations.

A spokesman for a San Francisco Bay Area CIO organization said the CIO would raise funds and carry the fight into Mississippi of Governor Warren allowed the extradition.

Most of the witnesses appearing for King contended—apart from the legal aspects of the case, which they termed dubious—that nothing was to be gained by sending him back to Mississippi to "face death or the equivalent."

Demand Return To Dixie Of Coast Businessman Freed 21 Years Ago

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 7-31-48

OAKLAND, Calif.—Following unusual procedure, Gov. Earl Warren last week slated for July 27 a public hearing of the case of Wiley King, 45, well known local business and churchman, whom the state of Mississippi demands be extradited for what King supporters claim was a self-defense slaying pardoned many years ago.

The governor set the open hearing at his Sacramento office in response to petitions of more than a thousand residents from whom King's strange case received widespread sympathy.

King, whose extradition is sought under the name Jessie Stewart, was given life sentence in Tylertown, Miss., February 1926. Court records show that he stood trial for a slaying which occurred when he was attacked by five armed men who blocked the road, forced him out of his car and threatened his life. It is alleged that he was not represented by legal counsel during the trial.

Pardoned for $250

After serving 22 months, King alleges that he was told by Mississippi prison authorities that he would be pardoned and released if he paid "costs" of $250. King's family and friends raised the money and Mississippi authorities are said to have released him with what he supposed was a full pardon.

Governor Warren Saves Wiley King

Afro American

Refuses Extradition to Mississippi Prison

OAKLAND, Calif. — Governor Earl Warren has denied an extradition request from the Governor of Mississippi for the return of Wiley King to prison in that State. King left the prison 21 years ago thinking he had paid his debt to society.

Sat 9-18-48

He was operating a small grocery store here when Mississippi officials learned of his whereabout and demanded his return for violating a parole.

Baltimore, Md.

A defense committee composed of members of the Alameda County CIO, the Progressive Party, the NAACP, Civil Rights Congress and others, including his wife, Mrs. Melvina King, organized public sentiment in his behalf and petitioned the Governor to deny the extradition request.

When released, King was jubilant and issued a statement through Hursel Alexander, chairman of his defense committee, thanking all who worked in his behalf.

Warren Saves Negro From Chain Gang

Black Dispatch
Sat 9-25-48
Oklahoma City, Okla.

SAN FRANCISCO, — Governor Earl Warren of California struck a telling blow for human values this week when he refused to permit the return of Jesse Stewart, Negro resident of Oakland, Calif., to a Mississippi chain gang.

Stewart was convicted and sentenced in Missisippi in 1925. He escaped in 1927 and went to Memphis, Tenn. He has been living in Oakland for the past 18 months. Since moving here, he established a small business and won the respect of his neighbors. Stewart was picked up when his fingerprints were taken for a second-hand dealer's license.

Urge Warren to Defend Miss. Fugitive

Afro American
Sat 8-28-48
Baltimore, Md.

OAKLAND, Cal. (ANP)—In a letter to Gov. Earl Warren, Republican vice presidential candidate, several leading citizens asked the Governor not to extradite Wiley King, local business man, to Mississippi where he is wanted for an alleged crime of 21 years ago.

Supporters of King noted his excellent record as a California citizen and business leader during the past 20 years. The letter stated:

Cite Good Conduct

"Mr. King's exemplary conduct in 21 years establishes his right to freedom and should not result in having his life placed in the jeopardy that confronts a colored person who attempts to secure justice in a Southern State which openly flounts the bill of rights.

"We urge you to publicly state your refusal to sign the extradition papers in this case." It was signed by:

Dr. Hartwell E. Scarbrough, the Rev. Stephen Fritschmann, Bert Witt, James Daughterty, Guy Endore, Sidney Moore, Maynard J. Omerberg, Dr. W. Z. Gordon, Frances E. Williams, Carey McWilliams, the Rev. J. J. Hicks, the Rev. L. L. White, Frances Greenside, Lorenzo Bowdoin, the Rev. Clifford S. Spears, Anne Pollock, Mrs. Elton Cutler and Jose Chaves.

California Refuses To Extradite Grocer

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Ill. Sat. 9-18-48

OAKLAND, Calif.—Wiley King, alleged murderer and escaped convict was freed on Thursday when Governor Earl Warren refused to honor a petition from Mississippi's Governor Fielding Wright, requesting the return of the 45 year old Oakland grocer.

Final disposition of the much publicized extradition case came after three months of conference, court hearings and public demonstrations by 10,000 citizens, civic groups and church organizations throughout California.

Completely evading the civil rights issue—the grounds on which King's counsel based its defense—the Governor, in a press release stated, "the ends of justice would not be served by breaking up this family and sending its breadwinner back to prison."

King, who has lived an exemplary life, engaged in church and community work for the past 21 years, was sentenced to life in prison at Walthall, Miss., November 6, 1925, for shooting Percy Dillon, following a trial which lasted only ten minutes and denied him the service of legal counsel.

Through his attorney, Robert

Treuhaft, King, who served two years of his life's sentence under the name of Jessie Stewart (the latter being his stepfather's name), contended that he was not knowingly a fugitive. He said he thought he had been pardoned by a Mississippi Governor after he paid a prison guard $250 to secure his freedom in 1927.

The defendant's identity became known when he was fingerprinted for a license to operate as an auto parts and junk dealer in Oakland three months ago.

Sat 9-18-48

A greatly relieved and joyful King family was this week thanking the many groups which fought the grocer's extradition. King himself, in expressing his appreciation, pointed to the unity of the many groups which assisted him. Co-chairmen of the Defense committee were M. C. Ferrero, business agent of the CIO Steelworkers, local 1798, and Hursel Alexander, organizer for the Independent Progressive Party. Secretary was the Rev. G. G. Griffin, pastor of Macedonian Baptist church of North Richmond; and Rev. H. T. S. Johnson, retired Methodist minister, who is chairman of the Alameda Progressive party, was treasurer.

13b 1948

Mississippi (Missouri)

FIGHTS EXTRADITION BACK TO MISSISSIPPI

Times-Picayune

St. Louis, Aug. 5—United States District Judge Roy W. Harper has issued a writ directing St. Louis police to show that they are holding legally a Negro escapee from a Mississippi work camp.

Fri. 8-6-48

Johnnie Wilson asked the court for the writ which is returnable August 20.

New Orleans

Wilson, in his petition, stated he was arrested without a warrant and received no trial or counsel when he was sentenced to 15 years in February, 1946. He said he escaped in June, 1946.

Missouri Gov. Phil M. Donnelly has issued extradition papers at the request of Gov. Fielding Wright of Mississippi. In Gov. Wright's request he said Wilson was sentenced to the work camp for theft of $25 from a hardware store.

Extradition Refused, Lands In Jail Again

Memphis World
Memphis, Tenn.
13b

NEW YORK—(NNPA) John Colier, 27, when Governor Alfred E. Driscoll of New Jersey, refused to extradite to South Carolina to finish a sentence on a chain gang, was back in jail last Monday--this time in New York--charged with the theft of an automobile in Newark.

Colier and Hardy Triplett, also of Newark, were arrested in New York and charged with grand larceny in felony Court for the alleged theft of an automobile belonging to Herman Dupelt of Newark. Both men were held in $1500 bail by Magistrate Francis X. Giaccone. A hearing in the case was set for November 30.

Tri. 12-3-48

Colier indicated that he would fight extradition to New Jersey, the state which only three- months ago gave him sanctuary by refusing the demands of South Carolina for his return to a chain gang from which he escaped after being convicted of a petty theft.

13b

2-YEAR FIGHT

Governor Driscoll granted Colier his freedom after the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and various civil organizations had waged a two-year fight to prevent his return to the South Carolina chain gang in a case which attracted national attention.

Tri 12-3-48

When he was released from the Jersey jail, Colier, an illiterate, made a great show of his appreciation by kneeling down and kissing the ground in front of the jail. Governor Driscoll released him on the promise that influential citizens of Newark would be responsible for him.

He was given employment and until his arrest last week was apparently law-abiding.

Colier, Once Spared Extradition, Is Jailed

Journal & Guide

NEW YORK—(NNPA) — John Colier, 27, for whom Governor Alfred E. Driscoll of New Jersey defied extradition laws to prevent his return to a South Carolina chain gang, was back in jail last Monday—this time in New York — charged with the theft of an automobile in Newark.

Det 11-27-48

Colier and Hardy Triplett, also of Newark, were arrested in New York and charged with grand larceny in Felony Court for the alleged theft of an automobile belonging to Herman Doppelt of Newark. Both men were held in $1500 bail by Magistrate Francis X. Giaccone. Hearing in the case was set for Nov. 30.

Colier indicated that he would attempt to fight extradition back to New Jersey, the state, which had only three months ago given him a new lease on life by ignoring the demands of South Carolina that he be returned to a chain gang from which he had escaped after being convicted of a minor theft.

Governor Driscoll granted Colier his freedom after the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and various other civic organizations had waged a two-year fight to prevent his return.

Det 11-27-48

The governor released him on the promise that influential citizens of Newark would be responsible for him. He was given employment and until his arrest last week was apparently living a clean life.

Det 11-27-48

13b 1948

North Carolina (Ohio)

Refuse To Extradite Fugitive To No. Carolina

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta Georgia

LORAIN, Ohio—(NNPA) — Freedom from a North Carolina charge of attempted rape was the Christmas present given Ila Coston, 45-year old fugitive, last Wednesday when a municipal court judge refused to order him extradited.

Smiling as he left the courtroom of Judge Malcolm Thomson, Coston said:

Fr-12-31-48

"I want to thank everyone who has helped me. I've been offered a job at a steel mill and I'm going to make Lorain my home."

He said his wife and two grown sonsc are still on his farm near Hendersonville, North Carolina, but will join him later.

During the fugitive's hearing before Judge Thomson, Robert L. Ratchford, executive secretary to Governor Thomas J. Herbert, recommended that Coston be not turned over to North Carolina authorities.

ATTACK CHARGED.

Coston was charged with attempting to rape a 17-year old girl at his farm gate. His attorney, Paul W. Walter, convinced Ratchford in an extradition hearing in Columbus, Ohio, that there is no "attempt to rape" statute on the North Carolina statute books.

Once Coston, caught in Cleveland, was handed over to Henderson County (North Carolina) deputies by Cleveland detectives. But Walter telephoned the law office of Senator Robert A. Taft in Cincinnati where a habeas corpus writ was obtained. Coston was returned to Cleveland and then freed by Common Please Judge Charles J. McNamee.

To get Coston the North Carolina authorities brought the alleged attack victim, Miss Belvie Laughter, to Cleveland to testify and identify him. But they lost out.

Coston again was arrested as a fugitive in Lorain, where he is now working.

13b

CASE CONTINUED.

Judge McNamee continued the case early in December, saying he would let Coston go if there was no more cause shown for holding him than was presented at the earlier hearing.

Fr-12-31-48

Ratchford, too, said he believed Governor Herbert should inform North Carolina that there seemed insufficient evidence to allow extradition.

According to Coston, he merely asked Miss Laughter is she and some of her friends would like to pick beans on his farm. Shortly after she reached town, he was warned that a mob was coming to get him. He had left the state when an indictment was drawn up.

Coston's attorney said the charge of a 17-year old girl against his client grew out of the desire of Coston's neighbors to obtain his farm on which about 1,000 fruit trees would soon start bearing.

13b 1948 South Carolina (New Jersey)

Token of Freedom: Colier Style

Afro American _ Sat 8-14-48

Baltimore, Md.

John Colier, 28-year-old fugitive from a South Carolina chain gang, freed after 26 months and 28 days in the Newark St. jail, Newark, N.J., kisses the ground in front of the jail in a token of thanks as he was released Friday morning. Governor Driscoll of New Jersey refused to return him to South Carolina, ruling that by this time "he had amply paid his debt to society."

Governor Refuses To Return Fugitive To S.C

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga

TRENTON, N. J.— (NNPA) — Governor Alfred E. Driscoll was urged last Thursday not to return John Colier, 27-year-old fugitive, to a "living death" in Greenwood, South Carolina. The governor took the plea under advisement.

Fri. 4-2-48

Colier was represented by Attorneys Abraham A. Golden and J. Mercer Burrell, both of Newark at a public hearing held in the offices of Governor Driscoll. The hearing was attended by more than 100 representatives of twenty-five local and national organizations, who crowded the office to urge the governor to withdraw the warrant of extradition issued by his predecessor, Walter E. Edge.

Mr. Golden told, Governor Driscoll the fugitive "would rather you execute him in the electric chair here in Trenton than return to a brutal delayed death in South Carolina, where he is a marked man the victim of a foul system of white supremacy.

Colier, an illiterate, was arrested for a $5 theft in Greenwood and sent to the chain gang. He served 13 months of the 19-month sentence, then escaped to New Jersey In 1944: He was arrested while walking with another man who carried a gun. A search of his record followed and South Carolina demanded his return.

After his lawyers supported by the NAACP had lost his case in the courts. former Governor Edge on May 1 1946, signed a warrant for his extradition to South Carolina.

Fri-4-2-48

Governor Driscoll was presented with an affidavit from a Greenwood city official who testified that Colier had not had benefit of counsel when he was tried.

Governor Driscoll heard a newspaper woman testify that South Carolina chain gang officials had promised to make an "example" of Colier when he was returned to them. We listened to Colier's lawyers tell how their client had been beaten with automobile brake shoes and his back swept with a broom dipped in hot oil. He saw an entire delegation of twenty-five ministers raise their hands when he asked who among them would be willing to take Colier into their home if the extradition order was withdrawn.

Governor Refuses To Return Fugitive To S.C.

The Lighthouse & Informer
Columbia, S.C.

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4-4-48

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Columbia. S.C

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What Will Governor Of South Carolina Say To Jersey Governor?

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 6—(AP)—John Colier, fugitive from a South Carolina chain gang, is still in jail today waiting for the legal technicalities of his freedom to be ironed out.

Fri. 8-6-48

The 29-year-old Negro yesterday won a 27-month fight against extradition when Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll ruled he "has by this time amply paid his debt to society."

Colier's counsel was scheduled to confer with Essex County Prosecutor Duane E. Minard today to move for court action supporting Driscoll's order to free Colier.

Meanwhile, in South Carolina, where Colier escaped from a chain gang 11 years ago to avoid a 19-month sentence in a $5 robbery, Attorney General John M. Daniel said Driscoll's refusal to grant extradition was "interference with states' rights."

The New Jersey governor "is passing sentence on South Carolina cases," Daniel charged. He said it was "unheard of" that the New Jersey governor would attempt to reduce a man's court sentence.

Gov. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina had no comment.

N.J. Refuses To Extradite S.C. Negro

Columbia Record
Thur. 8-5-48

TRENTON, N. J., Aug. 5—(AP)—Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll today refused to return John Colier to what his attorney said would be a "living death" on a South Carolina chain gang for a $5 theft.

Colier, a Negro, escaped from the chain gang 11 years ago after serving nine months of a 19-month sentence. He has been held in Newark 27 months on a fugitive warrant.

Columbia S.C

Refusing to honor South Carolina's demand for his return, Driscoll asserted Colier "has by this time amply paid his debt to society, to such an extent that no further sound purpose could be served by his extradition."

It was the first time since 1932, when Gov. A. Harry Moore declined to send Robert Alliott Burns back to a Georgia chain gang, that New Jersey has rejected another state's demand for extradition.

During his two-year fight to remain in New Jersey, Colier charged he was denied a fair trial and subjected "to cruel and inhuman beatings while stripped naked." He said a companion, James Edwards was beaten to death before his eyes while chained to prison bars.

Later, Colier said, he was beaten with brakelining, rubber hose and an iron file and a prison guard dipped a straw broom in oil set it on fire, and swept it across his back. All the while, he said, he was shackled day and night in chains weighing 35 pounds.

Driscoll's decision was on an application by Colier for recall of an extradition warrant signed by former Gov. Walter E. Edge Jan. 9, 1947. At a hearing before the governor last March 25, representatives of a dozen organizations pleaded that his return to South Carolina would mean a "living death."

"Colier would rather you execute him in the electric chair here in Trenton," his counsel, Abram A. Golden of Newark, said, "than to return him to a brutal delayed death in South Carolina, where he is a marked man, and the victim of a foul system of white supremacy."

Thur 8-5-48

Driscoll's decision was made public by his office. The governor is in a Philadelphia hospitol, where he underwent an operation Tuesday.

At Columbia, S. C., state attorney General John M. Daniel said Driscoll's decision is "in interference "with states' rights."

"He is passing sentence on South Carolina cases," Daniel declared.

He pointed out that the case "went through the courts and the Attorney General recommended" Colier's return.

"It is unheard of" that Driscoll would attempt to reduce a man's court sentence, Daniel said.

Governor J. Strom Thurmond had no immediate comment on the case. His office indicated that he might have a statement tomorrow.

N. J. Governor Hears Pleas to Free Collier

Afro American

TRENTON, N.J.— (NNPA)— Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll was urged last Thursday not to return John Colier, 27-year-old fugitive, jailed here for 22 months, to a "living death" in Greenwood, (S.C.) The Governor took the plea under advisement.

Sat 4-3-48

Colier was represented by Abraham A. Golden and J. Mercer Burrell, both Newark attorneys, at a public hearing held in the offices of Governor Driscoll attended by more than 100 representatives of 25 local and national organizations.

Baltimore, Md

Thanks Many Benefactors

Afro American

Orders Hearty Lunch He Fails to Finish

Sat 8-14-48

JOB, LOVE NEXT

Baltimore, Md

Pastors' Plea Spurs Governor's Decision

NEWARK, N.J. — John Colier, 28, son of Macko and Carrie Colier of Greenwood, S.C., kissed the ground of freedom last Friday morning when released from the Newark St. jail, after Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll, on Thursday, refused to grant South Carolina's demand that he be extradited and returned to the chain gang.

Colier had spent 26 months and 28 days behind bars while his lawyers, civic leaders and organizations fought to have him remain a free citizen here.

Thanks Benefactors

Choked with emotion, Colier thanked J. Mercer Burrell and Abe Golden, attorneys; Gov. Driscoll; Mr. Hayes, representing the Baptist Ministerial Conference of Newark and Vicinity and the NAACP, who contributed financially to the case; and Mrs. Lillie Booth, 222 Warren St., who favored him with visits and food while in custody.

Concerned with his appearance, Colier's immediate desire was to buy a white shirt, with which he selected a brown and gold cravat, had his shoes shined, and his double-breasted black pin-striped suit pressed.

Sat 8-14-48

Emotion Stalls Appetite

His first meal outside of jail was lunch with his counsellors at the Alumni House. He ordered grapefruit juice, fried chicken, French fried potatoes and lima beans. He chose cake a la mode for dessert.

He began his meal with relish, but being so overwhelmed by his freedom, he pushed his plate back, lit a cigarette and sat quietly with his head bowed.

He next visited the AFRO, which, he said, had been responsible for public interest in the case. He left the AFRO office to "see what a real bed feels like."

Wants to Marry

Colier said he wanted to "rest" for a few days before starting on one of several jobs offered him, and then he wanted to meet some nice girl, marry, and settle down in a nice home.

"I've been keeping up with the Dodgers. I would like to see them play before the season is over, and take in a few movies," he beamed for the first time like a youngster who is going to a circus.

Hopes Parents Are Safe

Colier was concerned about his parents, whom he hadn't heard from in over a year.

He expressed the hope that they had left South Carolina for fear they would be subjected to the wrath of the whites there who would not take kindly to his freedom here.

He insisted that his address here be withheld from the public until he has rested up. Scores of well-wishers have been trying to reach him to offer their congratulations.

Will Forget Carolina

Colier said he had no thought of ever going back to South Carolina again. He shrugged his shoulders when informed of Gov. J. Strom Thurmond's hostile attitude toward Gov. Driscoll in ordering his freedom. He added:

"I never had the chance other children had because I had to leave school when I was in the first grade to help on the farm, as both my parents were sickly and depended on their five children to do most of the work."

Arrested When 14

Recalling the case leading to the fight against extradition, Colier said he was 14 years old when two youths stole seven or eight packs of cigarettes and tobacco and gave them to him.

He was arrested with the two and beaten in prison into admitting that he was responsible for the theft. He said he saw one of the boys, James H. Effert, beaten to death and his body hauled away in a dump wagon.

Escapes Chaingang

On Aug. 28, 1937, Colier was sentenced to a term on the chaingang for the theft of 10 packs of cigarettes, four packs of chewing gum, and $5. He denied the charge.

He escaped after serving all but nine months of the sentence and headed North, and, after living in New York a year, he came to Newark in 1943.

Between then and 1944 he was arrested seven times for minor offenses, except the charge of auto theft for which he was sentenced to 10 months in the county penitentiary.

Extradition Papers Faulty

South Carolina authorities learned that he was in New Jersey after his arrest on a disorderly conduct charge in July, 1945, and began extradition proceedings.

It was learned that extradition papers were signed either by the Secretary of State or the solicitor of the Eighth Judicial District, instead of by the then Chief Executive, Gov. Walter E. Edge.

This error was discovered by Mr. Golden who was appointed by the court to defend Colier in May, 1946. Sheriff L. Cal White of Greenwood, S.C., who came here for Colier, returned to South Carolina without his prisoner.

Legal Battles Cited

Vice Chancellor Stein, on March 20, 1947, denied the Chancery Court application for a habeas corpus writ which would have freed Colier.

Golden took the proceedings to the Court of Errors and Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court, which upheld the Chancery ruling on the grounds that the extradition papers were in order and the courts had no authority to set them aside.

Golden and Burrell, the NAACP representatives, met with Gov. Driscoll last March to request Colier's freedom. They were supported by 25 ministers who offered to assume responsibility for Colier should he be released in New Jersey.

Governor's Statement

Gov. Driscoll withheld his decision until Thursday when he made this announcement:

"In reaching this decision, I have followed the course which I publicly laid down at a hearing held before me on the application for recall of the extradition warrant, a careful weighing of the demands of justice against the demands of the principle of comity between the States.

"On this basis, it had become evident to me that Colier has by this time amply paid his debt to society.

Ministers' Influence Help

"I have been substantially reinforced in this conclusion by the eagerness of the group of ministers who appeared at the hearing to assume responsibility for Colier's good behavior if released in New Jersey.

"Especially under these circumstances, I feel that both the ends of justice and the interest of society can best be served by a recall of the warrant."

Jersey Refuses to Return Negro to Dixie Chain Gang

Detroit Free Press
Fri 8-13-48

Detroit, Mich

TRENTON, N. J.—(AP)—Gov. Alfred E. Driscoll refused to return John Colier to what his attorney said would be a "living death" on a ~~South Carolina~~ chain gang for a $5 theft.

Colier, a Negro, escaped from the chain gang 11 years ago after serving nine months of a 19-month sentence. He has been held in Newark 27 months on a fugitive warrant.

It was the first time since 1932, when former Gov. A. Harry Moore declined to send Robert Alliott Burns back to a Georgia chain gang, that New Jersey has rejected another state's demand for extradition.

Freed S. C. Fugitive Thanks 'Kind Whites'

The Courier

(138)

Sat 8-14-48

Pittsburgh Pa

By ALFRED A. DUCKETT

(Exclusive to The Pittsburgh Courier)

NEWARK, N. J.—Tall, slim, 29-year-old John Colier, who had lived in the shadows of Essex County's Newark Street jail for twenty-seven months, walked out into the sunlight of freedom Friday morning.

The desperation which had been Colier's cellmate, was routed on Thursday when this State's humane Governor Alfred E. Driscoll, in an historic decision, refused to extradite the fugitive to a South Carolina chain gang, declaring that he had "by this time amply paid his debt to society." The "debt" had been incurred with the alleged 1937 theft of ten packages of cigarettes, four packages of chewing gum and $5 in Greenwood, S. C.

In an exclusive interview Saturday morning at the offices of his attorney, Abram Arthur Golden, 1060 Broad Street, Colier told The Pittsburgh Courier how it felt to be free.

"There's nothin' like freedom," he said haltingly. "I had just given up hope and didn't care much what happened. I had worried so much and I was really surprised when they came and told me the Governor had decided to free me.

"I used to think all white people hated all of us," he continued.

He glanced gratefully across the room at Attorney Golden.

"I know better now," he stated. "I know there's kind white people—like him. I think he's the best lawyer in the world—I'll never have any prejudice again against white people. I'm free now."

Colier said he was also deeply grateful to Newark's brilliant, politically powerful Atty. J. Mercer Burrell who was associated with Golden in the case.

OBJECTED TO PICTURES

"Did you see the pictures on the front pages of the daily papers today?" Colier asked.

The daily papers had featured a picture of him kissing the ground as he emerged from prison.

We said we had seen them.

"I didn't like that," he offered hesitantly. "The only reason I did it was because the photographers suggested it. I don't think a man should have to kneel for freedom. I think he should stand straight up on his two feet for freedom. We should all have equal rights. We're all human."

USEFUL CITIZEN

The ex-prisoner seems to have done a great deal of thinking while in jail. He feels very deeply that there are too many people who are opposed to injustice who don't do anything about it. He's determined to get a job, become a useful citizen and do what he can to help others who are the victims of injustice.

"Being in jail, I learned a lot," he murmured with a sort of soft bitterness. "I'll never get into trouble again."

One way he is determined to stay out of trouble is by staying out of the South. He intends to remain right in Newark.

"I think all Negroes should leave the South," he declared. "To those who know what it's like it's no joke."

FOREVER SCARRED

Colier's memory will be foreever scarred with his experience while on the South Carolina chain gang. His back still bears scars which he claims resulted from beatings administered to him by guards. He says he was stripped of his clothing and beaten into unconsciousness, burned with a broom which had been dipped in oil and beaten with heavy brake-lining, rubber hose, iron files and shackled in irons weighing thirty - five pounds.

He will never be able to forget how a prisoner serving time with him was beaten to death in his presence with an iron file, he says.

He was expecting to meet his two sisters, who live in Easton, Pa., and his mother, Catherine Colier of Greenwood, S. C., on Monday. They were scheduled to come to Newark.

"That'll be some reunion," he grinned.

Colier hopes to get a job as a mechanic or truck driver.

13b 1948

Tennessee (Ohio)

Fugitive of Tenn. Chain Gang Nabbed After 25 Years

Afro-American

Feb 14 48

Baltimore, Md.

AKRON, Ohio (NNPA) — Arthur Carter, 48, who allegedly fled a Tennessee chain gang 25 years ago, was free under $500 bond here last Thursday as habeas corpus proceedings were begun in his behalf. Carter's petition said he was known also as Roy Hardy.

Detectives said Hardy, whom they identified as Carter, a law-abiding resident here 20 years, walked away from a chain gang while serving a 10-to-20 year sentence for assault and attempted criminal attack. The NAACP entered the picture to fight his extradition to Tennessee "because no colored person is safe in the South, even in prison."

1948

Texas (Michigan)

Negro Detective Captures Man Who Stole $4,000

The Informer

DALLAS — A Negro detective from Detroit made a sensational coup in Dallas last week when he came to this city and captured a dapper young man who was charged with stealing $4,000 in cash from a woman who had rented him a room.

The detective won in two Dallas Courts in the procedure it took to remove the young man from Dallas to Detroit where he must face trial for theft of the $4,000.

Charged with grand larceny is Sam Hall, who according to the detective befriended his landlady and relieved her of the $4,000 in a very "slick take."

Sat 1-17-48

The Negro detective is Casper Peek, who without ever seeing Sam Hall before, traced him from Detroit to Chicago and into Dallas.

On information furnished by Detective Peek, Dallas police picked up Sam Hall and Detective Peek came in person to identify his man and ably established in two Dallas Courts his right to take Hall back to Detroit.

The climax to a masterful piece of detective work came at Habeas Corpus hearings, Wednseday in Judge Robert A Hall's criminal district court.

It was all a part of EXTRADITION proceedings. In this the governor of Michigan had asked the governor of Texas to send Sam Hall back to Michigan for trial. In [illegible] civil [illegible] necessary papers were found to be in order and in criminal court Judge Hall ordered Sam Hall sent back to Detroit. The decision of the judge was made on evidence expertly given in testimony from the witness stand by the detective.

Houston Texas

Detective Casper Peek won admiration and praise among court officials and both white and Negro spectators.

Working on all types of cases, Detective Peek has been a member of the city police dept. of Detroit for nearly 21 years. He lives at 6454 Colfax, Detroit, is 44, married and has two sons.

Among the observers who complimented Detective Peek was Judge Robert Hall who shook the operative's hand and said "you are one of the most intelligent witnesses among officers I have ever seen." Others praised his wide knowledge of points of law, courts and judicial procedure which was shown when the lawyed defending Sam Hall fired a battery of questions at Peek.

Here is the trickery by which Sam Hall allegedly stole the $4,000 from Miss Willie Christmas in Detroit in whose home he was a roomer.

A tall, robust and neatly dressed man, Hall befriended the woman and won her confidence. Feeling the handsome Hall would be a pleasat and strong protector she let him persuade her to lock her money in his trunk. He had given her some good advice. "Lock up that money and put it in the bank tomorrow," he told the woman.

When the woman locked the money in his turnk and Hall gave her the key she just knew it was safe.

Sat 1-17-48

But Sam Hall had another key to his trunk and while the woman was asleen that night he got the $4,000 and left Detroit.

The maximum penalty for the felony Sam Hall is charged with is 4 years in the pen or a $2,500 fine.

In Detroit there are about 58 Negroes on the city police force, patrolmen, detectives and formerly some detective sergeants. Detective Peek's partner in the sleuthing on the Sam Hall case is Detective Wash Hardy.

A native of Atlanta Ga., detective Peek went to Detroit in 1927 where he first served as a patrolman for two years. A detective ever since then, he has received 18 precinct citations fo bravery and one departmental citation. Others were available to him during the past years, but he did not bother about taking the honor.

Detective Peek praised the Dallas police, and said he received every courtesy and aid from them that could be desired.

Waitress' death still unsolved

Los Angeles Calif

(139)

After getting off to a slow start as the new year dawned, the homicide rate spiraled alarmingly this week with two fatal shootings, a stabbing, and the mysterious death of a woman bringing to five the number of murders which have taken place in the Negro community during 1948.

Tribune

Dead are: John L. Butler, 21, of 1260 E. 25th st.; O'Brean Jackson, 39, 1436 E. 53rd st.; Justin Williams, 21, 325 E. 2nd st.; and Mrs. Rosetta Williams, 37, of 1142 E. Santa Barbara ave.

Sat. 1-17-48

Murders of the three men were described by police as "routine" killings, growing out of drunken brawls or quarrels, but the death of Mrs. Williams, a 37-year-old waitress, puzled authorities.

Her body was found by a passerby Monday morning in an alley between 40th place and Santa Barbara just off Central avenue. She had been dead several hours and officers offered several theories as to how she met death, one of them including strangulation.

Evidence pointed strongly, however, to "hit and run auto," detectives said. Mrs. Williams' legs were broken below the knee. Her skull was fractured. There was a round hole in each knee of her nylon stockings, pointing to the possibility that the impact of a car might have knocked her to her knees before she toppled over and broke her head on the pavement. There was also a grease smear on the front of her leg. Her watch had stopped at 8:25.

1-17-48

Most perplexing note in the case was the smear of blood, from the woman's head down the length of her dress. Police said the driver of the car might have raised her head, thus causing the blood to trickle down her dress.

1-17-48

There is also the possibility, the officers said, that the woman might have been killed with a blow on the head at some distant point, driven to the alley and thrown from the car.

Tribune

Police said she had no known relatives here. A waitress at 2022 S. Central ave., she was identified by Mrs. Laura Smith, of 1265 E. Santa Barbara, who said Mrs. Williams had passed her house daily on her way to work. Ernest Valencia, 1761 E. 43rd st., discovered the body.

(2710)

DIDN'T MEAN TO DO IT

Los Angeles Calif

Butler was shot and killed by Obra Sutton, also 21, after a drunken quarrel in Butler's room.

The killing was witnessed by A. D. Brown and David Watson, of 517 E. Jefferson. Arrested later at his mother's home at 1403 E. 20th st., Butler readily admitted the killing, but could give no serious reason for it.

Sat 1-17-48

Even after he was shot, Jackson, wielding the barrels from a double-barreled shotgun, swung on Burney Hern, his assailant, and gave him a possible skull fracture. Hern was found by police after they followed his bloody trail to the cab of a truck 25 yards away. He said he shot Jackson after he beat him up. The shooting took place at 1436 E. 53rd st. and the wounded man died later at the General hospital. He is survived by his wife, Jennie Mae.

Sat.

Williams was stabbed at 4058 Trinity last Sunday night after a quarrel with John H. Taylor, 27, 1246 Birch st., who didn't "mean to kill him." Witnesses were Willie Hayes, 325 E. 2nd st., Marie Jones and Charlotte Mills, of the Trinity st. address.

1-17-48

Birch was arrested Monday morning at his home where police said they found a yellow sport shirt covered with blood.

13c 1948

Executions

Dixie, Georgia And Negroes Lead In Executions

13c

The Defender

Feb. 6, 48

Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON — With nearly alf of the year's total executions in five southern states, the census bureau last week revealed that 131 died in the U.S. for crimes in 1947 and that Georgia led the roster with 16 official slayings.

Of those who died, 107 were charged with murder and 21 with rape. North Carolina followed Georgia a close second with 13, while Virginia, Alabama and Mississippi had nine each. Negroes were far in the majority with 84 executed to 46 whites. Only one to die was a woman, a Negro maid' executed in Pennsylvania on a charge of murdering her employer.

13c 1948 Florida

Beach Slaying Suspect in Georgia On Crime Date, Jail Records Show

The Constitution - Mon 9-22-48

Atlanta Ga

(13c)

The Georgia Department of Corrections is investigating records that show an escaped convict was in prison in Seminole County on the date on which, according to a confession allegedly made by him, he participated in the murder of a young man and woman at Ormond Beach, Fla.

Booked as Clarence Albury, Negro, the escaped convict was captured in Mitchell County Aug. 29, by Sheriff W. M. Harris, of that County, and Harris said Albury confessed taking part in the Aug. 14 beach slaying of Miss Mary Hucks, 24, of East Point, and Gregory Blount, 24, of Lexington, Ky.

The State Department of Corrections confirmed a report yesterday, however that Albury, alias A. C. Royalton, was reported by Warden Macon Poston, of Seminole County, as having walked away from a work gang near Donalsonville Aug. 16, which was two days after the beach murders.

Thus, if Albury was a prisoner in Seminole County at the time, he could not have taken part in the Aug. 14 crime in Florida.

Sheriff Harris and Florida authorities reported, however, that Albury gave a detailed confession of his role in the brutal killings, but claimed a companion was actually the "trigger" man who shot Blount to death, and then assaulted and fatally shot Miss Huck.

Mon 8-23-48

The investigation into Seminole County records centers around unconfirmed reports that Albury actually escaped several days prior to the Aug. 16 date his escape was reported to the State Patrol and State Department of Corrections.

Florida reports, also unconfirmed, are to the effect that Albury was working on a private road at the time of his escape, in violation of Georgia prison regulations, but J. B. Hatchett, of the Department of Corrections, said Warden Poston reported to him that the Negro was working on a public road when he escaped.

Meanwhile, a number of other suspects have been questioned; the "trigger" man is still being sought, and Albury, alias Roylton, is still in custody in Florida.

Albury was listed in Georgia records as a dangerous prisoner, of the type normally kept under close guard at the Tattnall State Prison in Reidsville and not "farmed out" to County prison camps. Hatchett said the Negro was sent to Southwest Georgia with other prisoners last Spring to do road work on highways seriously damaged by floods, and worked first in Thomas County before being sent to Seminole.

Dies Trying to Name Killer

Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Probe 'Hot Potato' for Fla. Investigators

MANY CLUES GIVEN

Sat 5-1-48

Victim Told Friends He Was Threatened

MIAMI, Fla. — Police are still seeking a motive for the slaying last Thursday night of Ellis W. (Peaches) Lindsey, 49, wealthy politician, who died in front of his $40,000 home, 1335 N.W., 67th St., Liberty City, trying to name his assailant.

Long prominent among colored citizens of Dade county, currently embroiled in a heated political contest involving the offices of sheriff, State's Attorney and County Solicitor, Lindsey was shot fatally through the heart.

His assailant who fled, fired three shots, two of which missed.

Lindsey's murder was a "hot potato" to investigating officers who admittedly followed several clues, including the possibility that he was slain as a political retaliation.

Sat 5-1-48

Police said they were informed that, two days before the murder, Lindsey confided to friends that he had been threatened because "I was for the wrong man."

The politician wielded a powerful influence among colored people, was active in the Elks and Masons, and was a powerful factor in labor unions, lodges, civic groups and churches.

Lindsey's name figured in testimony and suspension hearings last year for a detective lieutenant and a detective, both white. The politician, a native of Georgia came here in the 20's.

Officers in 5 States Spread Net For Beach Slaying 'Trigger Man' As Police Quiz Richland Suspect

Constitution - Mon 8-30-48

Atlanta Ga

13c

By BILL HARRELL

A Richland Negro was being sought for questioning yesterday as officers in five Southeastern States spread a net for the alleged "trigger man" in the Ormond, Fla., slaying two weeks ago of an East Point secretary and her beach companion.

A confession attributed to Clarence Albury, described [illegible] ighly dangerous fugitive" from the Georgia and Florida State Penitentiar [illegible] ers in the manhunt for a second suspect in the brutal attack and [illegible] Mary Hucks and the killing of Gregory Blount, University of Kentucky student.

Sheriff W. M. Harris, of Camilla, who provided the first major break in the case with his capture of Albury, yesterday was back-tracking the Negro's trail with Lt. W. D. White, of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

Sheriff Harris said he had pinned burglaries of a store at Buena Vista and a filling station at Preston to Albury. Harris said he had positive proof the Richland Negro was with Albury last Sunday, although Albury insisted he was alone at the time.

Although the Richland Negro, is not the fugitive named by Albury as his companion in the Florida forays, Sheriff Harris said he was exploring a definite possibility the Richland man might be implicated in the beach slayings with Albury.

Albury had named a six-foot Negro who formerly served time with him in a Florida prison camp as instigator of the plot, the actual slayer, and as the man who committed the assault upon Miss Hucks.

Harris said the two Georgia burglaries had netted Albury around $150 in currency and two cases of cigarettes, along with an undetermined number of checks. He said most of the cash was recovered when he arrested Albury, hidden in a stolen car in woods near Camilla.

Other authorities in five Southeastern states, meanwhile, last night were pressing their search for the Negro whose name appears in Albury's confession. Some searchers expressed possibility of a capture within 24 hours.

Sheriff Alex Littlefield, of Volusia County, Florida, said officers had "a good confession from Albury and there's no doubt about his being one of the guilty parties."

Asked if he thought Albury's story that he merely stood guard while his companion committed the crimes was plausible, Littlefield said "certainly not." He could not comment further.

Officers cited evidence of teeth marks on Albury's arms and body scratches. He was being held in an undisclosed Florida jail, reportedly Raiford Prison, yesterday as the search for his companion continued.

Mon 8-30-48

Sheriff Harris, when he arrested Albury on complaints he had frightened a Negro woman, said he recognized the Negro as a man he had arrested in 1944.

Albury at the time was sentenced to the Georgia State Prison on burglary charges as "A. C. Royston." Georgia authorities did not know that the same man as Albury had escaped from a Florida prison camp in 1943, Harris said. He later escaped from a Georgia prison camp.

Albury's combined sentences for burglary and auto theft already total 65 years in the two states, Harris commented.

Harris said Johnny Lee Coleman, Negro arrested with Albury Friday, was not implicated in the Florida case. He said Coleman, being held on an open charge of burglary, was accompanying officers in back-tracking Albury's trail. The two Negroes met Tuesday, Harris added.

Your Chance Of Being Slain In Alabama Among Best In U. S.

The News 13c Birmingham Ala

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15—(AP)—Georgia and Alabama led the nation in murders per 100,000 population during the first six months of 1948, the Federal Bureau of Investigation reports.

They topped the nation in the first half of 1947, also, and in both years Florida was in the upper brackets in murders per 100,000 inhabitants. Wed. 9-15-48

Georgia had 13.20 murders for each 100,000 people in the first six months this year, Alabama 12.62 and Florida 6.41.

The nation-wide average was 2.86.

Last year, in the same period, Alabama's average was 11.46, Georgia's 13.22 and Florida's 9.11. Then the national average was 2.92.

* * *

THE NUMBER of robberies in Georgia this year is below the national figure of 27.7 per 100,000. The state reported 25.2. In aggrevated assault, burglary, larceny and auto theft, however, Georgia tops the national average. The News

Alabama's rate of 24.6 robberies is below the national average, but Florida's 63.2 is more than double it. Birmingham

Like Georgia, Alabama and Florida, are above in all other categories of crime. Ala.

The number per 100,000 in the first six months of 1948, compared with the same 1947 period follows (with 1947 figures in parenthesis). Wed. 9-15-48

* * *

ALABAMA — Aggravated assault, 125.9 and (131.8), burglary, 289.9 and (295.5), larceny, 416.3 and (381.7); auto theft, 103.7 and (125.8).

Georgia — Aggravated assault 82.3 and (76.2; burglary, 22.1 and (206); larceny, 506.3 and (543.5); auto theft, 105 and (139.2).

Florida — Aggravated assault, 81.9 and (100.1); burglary, 504.9 and (517.2); larceny, 966.9 and (891.7); auto theft 148.6 and (152.7). 9-15-48

The national averages for 1948 follow: Aggravated assault, 35.9; burglary, 200.9; larceny, 479.8, and auto theft, 83.

Offer Reward in Musician's Death

The Courier 13c Sat 9-24-48

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.—Following the death of Allen Fleming, 35-year-old musician, in a city jail cell here, Mayor Charles G. Rose, has offered $500 reward leading to arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for his death. He had been in jail thirty hours prior to his death and according to one physician injuries on him could have been as little as ten hours old.

Fayetteville N.C.

The News

CHARGED WITH SLAYING CAB DRIVER—Harrel Hamilton, 21 (second from right, above), of Birmingham, is being held in Sylacauga jail after confessing to slaying an elderly taxicab driver there July 4 and critically wounding another cab driver at Talladega Saturday night. Shown with Hamilton are Talladega Police Officers Walter Thackerson (left) and Carl Jacks (right), who arrested him, and R. A. Rylant, assistant Sylacauga police chief. Hamilton gave a Birmingham address. (Photo by R. E. (Buster) Hogan.)

B'ham Ala

More Recreation Facilities Needed For Negroes to Curb Crime, Fox Says

Courier 13c Journal

Wed 11-17-48

Deputy Coroner Urges U. S. Help

Louisville Ky

Deputy Coroner John W. C. Fox's duties require him to look upon violent death—murder, suicide, and accident victims.

Although he finds all violent death shocking, Coroner Fox is particularly concerned about the high rate of murder among Negroes—Negroes killing Negroes. So far this year there have been 38 Negro killings in Louisville. Fox said that is 11 more than there were in the same period last year. There have been 10 murders of whites by whites.

Convinced that something must be done but at a loss to know just what, Fox said he believed more recreational facilities would help solve the problem.

Adults Need to Play.

"There is not a single bowling alley in the State of Kentucky for Negroes," Fox said. "There is just one lighted softball diamond in Louisville and no regular baseball diamond." There is one outdoor swimming pool, but no indoor pool for Negroes.

Fox recommended that recreational centers be established in heavily populated Negro areas. He praised the "housing people" for providing playgrounds for children in the project areas. "But adults need to play, too," he remarked.

More Activities Needed.

It was important, he said, that the proposed centers be the sort of place "you would naturally gravitate to—not a place where you felt you were being 'improved' or that smacked of 'self-help.'"

The additional leisure that

Courier-Journal Photo.

JOHN W. C. FOX.

working people now enjoy calls for more leisure-time activities, Fox said. If there is no provision for wholesome activities, the activities are likely to be unwholesome. It is much better for a boy to go bowling than to compete with a companion in seeing how much beer each can consume during the evening. "But they can't bowl if they've got no place to bowl," Fox said, adding, "I would like to see all these recreational activities done on a coed basis."

He doubted if sufficient State or City tax money could be obtained for an extensive recreational project. "But why can't the Federal Government spend money for such a project?" he asked.

Hopelessness Blamed.

The high crime rate among Negroes is distressing to responsible Negroes, Fox continued. The crime rate, he said, was largely the result of hopelessness combined with the need for an outlet of aggressiveness and energy.

"People with high hopes don't do desperate things," Fox declared. "The tragic facts we face prove the vital need for more recreation — enjoyable recreation — for Negroes. It might be expensive but in the end it would pay off economically as well as socially. We must, simply must, do something. I hope our civic leaders will give the problem immediate consideration."

Wed 11-17-48

In Seething Alabama

Writer Exposes 'Foul' Nature of Man's Death

The Courier Sat 9-4-48 13c
Pittsburgh Pa.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The foul and mysterious nature of the death of 29-year-old Henry Gardner of Lowndes County, cousin of highly respected Bill Gardner, a farmer, was exposed here by Allen Rankin, columnist for "The Montgomery Advertiser."

Quoting Mr. Rankin:

"Whether the victim (who was found dead on the highway) was slapped by a truck, a trailer, a baseball bat or what, is still a mystery. An attendant at the funeral home said an investigation is being made for "foul play."

"Dr. J. D. Robinson said he had performed an autopsy on the victim and that he had concluded that Gardner had been struck a 'terrific blow' on the side of his head. If it was a vehicle that him him, he said, it was a 'very peculair' vehicle."

Sat 9-4-48

WRITER GETS "RUN-AROUND"

Columnist Rankin revealed how Lowndes County authorities refused to give information about the young farmer's death and dodged interviews with him and A. P. reporters. Rankin declared that one of the deputies admitted that he had left the phone receiver dangling and his questions unanswered to go back to his game of dominoes.

Rankin, after explaining the ordeals through which he went in trying to find out how Gardner met his death, wrote:

"Throughout the whole of this—and it lasted two days and nights—Lowndes County's Sheriff O. C. Moorer could not be reached or contacted."

The columnist said when an A. P. reporter finally cornered Sheriff Moorer for an interview, "he listened for a while and then suddenly looked up and said: 'Boy, are you from the South? Well, don't you know we don't like folks meddling in things like this'."

Gun Loose And Switchblade Free

The Lighthouse + Informer

The toll in Negro life, taken by other Negroes, has seemed to increase recently in South Carolina, to speak not at all of the daily knifings and assaults which do not lead to death.

Columbia 13c S.C.

In striking contrast, though the alleged provocations attributed to some of the slayings are as frequent between the slayers and white people, seldom is there a report of a Negro slaying a white person in the same manner, and under similar conditions.

Sun. 12-5-48

There is but one answer for the high incidence of Negro slaughtering of Negroes. And that is not the fact that liquor, gambling or morals cause it. The answer is, as it long has been, the token effort, the petty regard for and the tendency to treat as purely "racial" clashes among Negroes. The premium on the life of a white man is such as to insure much greater respect among would-be-killers in both races. The same ought to exist among Negroes and for Negroes.

Few Negroes, too few in fact, are ever made to pay the full price for killing other Negroes. Often, if the money can be gotten together, a Negro killer pays a moderate fee to an attorney of influence, who in turn will "fix" it so that the killer gets a token sentence, if not being liberated entirely. At the so-called trials, the dead Negro is painted as being a devil while he lived, a no good citizen, a ne'er do well, one whose long life on the earth must be regarded as a miracle, for his final death was long overdue.

It is true of course that some Negroes, under influence of whiskey or the devil, are inclined to think—and this by having noted inclinations of courts and attorneys—that killing first is the finer course, provoked some of these fatalities. But not all of the dead sought to be killed. And the freed, boasting and daring murderers with black sins and skins now walking the streets are a disgrace to South Carolina justice for the Negro, as much as are many public services and opportunities.

It seems that if they are so inclined, Negroes can bounce for joy about public crimes against other Negroes, under a state-sanctioned but unwritten code of being entitled to be "Gun Loose and Switchblade Free."

Dooly County Bares Slaying Month Old

Atlanta Constitution

Sun. 12-12-48

VIENNA—(AP)—Discovery of the body of a Negro man a month ago was announced for the first time yesterday.

Atlanta, Ga.

Sheriff A. D. Peavey, of Dooly County, said the body, weighted down with a huge stone, had been found in the Flint River near Vienna with a gag in the mouth, arms bound and a bullet through the heart.

Albany Detective Gordon Stokes said the man had been identified through a social security card as Charles James Davis, of Pecan City, which is near Albany.

Stokes added that he had first learned of the slaying when the brother and sister of the dead Negro sought to have the body exhumed and brought to Albany for burial.

The Negro was buried in Crisp County which adjoins Dooly County, where the body was found. The sheriff said the body was so badly decomposed that a Cordele undertaker, to whom the body was taken, advised immediate burial there.

The brother and sister—Stokes did not know their names—told the detective they knew of no reason for the killing. They said their brother "traveled frequently."

Sun. 12-12-48

A coroner's jury in Vienna returned a verdict of "death at the hands of party or parties unknown" shortly after the body was found.

Georgia Tops Nation in Murder Rate

The Constitution

Thur 9-16-48

With Georgia leading the nation in the number of murders based on population for the first six months of 1948, crime generally appeared to be on the decrease in Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga.

Figures released by the FBI in Washington showed Georgia topped the natio nwith 13.2 murders for each 100,000 inhabitants. Alabama was second with 12.62, and Florida third with 6.41. The national average was only 2.86.

For the same period last year Georgia led the list with 13.22; Alabama had 11.45, and Florida 9.11. The national average then was 2.92.

In Atlanta, however, homicides for the first six months of 1948 were 51, compared to 52 last year; robberies dropped from 152 in 1947 to 125 for 1948 and auto thefts declined from 680 to 497. On the other hand, burglaries increased from 833 in 1947 to 945 in 1948.

Only in robberies did Georgia drop below the national average to 27.7 per 100,000. The State reported 25.2.

Thur 9-16-48

In aggravated assaults, Georgia's average was 125.9, while the national average was 35.9; in burglaries, 222.1 to 200.9 nationally; larceny, 506.3 to the national 479.8, and in auto theft, 105 to 83.

Alabama and Florida also were near the top of the FBI list for crime ratings during the first half of 1948.

Body Weighted With Irons Pulled From Ga. River

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 12-18-48

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

VIENNA, Ga. — Sheriff A. D. Peavy disclosed here Friday that the body of a Negro who had been shot, was pulled from the Flint River near here more than a month ago.

Peavy said he was "still investigating the case."

The sheriff said the man had been shot once and his body weighted with irons.

The name "Charles James Davis" was on a social security card found on the body but the sheriff said that he had been unable to determine if a man with that name was missing.

Though the body is now buried. Peavy said he might order the body exhumed if necessary, to provide evidence in the case.

The sheriff is "searching" for any relatives of the deceased in an effort to get a lead to the mystery death.

Sat. 12-18-48

Lynching Near Senator's Home Stumps Sheriff

The Pittsburgh Courier

The Pittsburgh Courier

Sat 12-25-48

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

VIENNA, Ga.—The finding of the body of slain Charles James Davis in the Flint river near the home of United States Senator Walter George remained a mystery last week as officers sought to cover up for not reporting the fact to the general press.

Sat 12-25-48

There was some tendency to term the killing another unannounced lynching, but the facts were missing. Georgia was still smarting under the lynching of Robert Mallard, prosperous salesman-farmer of near Vidalia.

Sheriff A. D. Peavey of Dolly County said he could find no motive or circumstances in the David slaying. David's body was fished from the Flint river. His arms had been bound, his mouth gagged and a heavy stone tied to the body. His assailant or assailants had shot him through the heart.

Davis was last seen alive in Albany in July. Relatives live in Putnam and Albany. An Albany detective reportedly is investigating.

Negro Judge Defends Ga.

The Constitution

Wed 8-25-48

A Philadelphia Negro Magistrate defended Georgia when a Negro bellhop wanted here for jumping his $2,000 bond told him his life would be in danger if he was returned to Atlanta.

Atlanta, Ga.

"I was down there with Henry Wallace," Deputy Sheriff O. C. Puckette quoted the Judge as saying, "and never was better treated in my life. I don't believe you are telling the truth."

The bellhop, Amos Eberhart, who was bound over on a charge of soliciting for purposes of prostitution, then appealed to a higher court, which turned him over to the Fulton Deputy. Eberhart is now in Fulton Tower.

Wed 8-25-48

DELAY INQUEST ON MURDER OF WOMAN IN HOME

Daily Tribune

Sat 9-4-48

Intensify Hunt for Maid Who Vanished

Chicago Ill

An inquest into the death of Mrs. Belle Tikulski, 48, of 7659 Phillips av., found beaten to death in her bedroom Thursday, was continued yesterday until Sept. 15 to allow police more time to investigate the murder.

Search for a Negro maid identified as Gladys Toole, who had reported for work at the Tikulski apartment for the first time Thursday morning, was intensified. Police said she had been sent to Mrs. Tikulski by an employment agency, that she had given a false address in registering at the agency, and that there were no records available there that would help identify her.

Evidence Of Struggle

Detective Michael Coen of the Grand Crossing police station testified that the bedroom was in great disorder, indicating that Mrs. Tikulski had struggled with her assailant. A search of the apartment disclosed that nothing was missing except the wedding and engagement rings Mrs. Tikulski habitually wore.

He said it appeared that the cleaning of the front room had been completed. The vacuum cleaner was found in the dining room and a mop and bucket were in the bathroom. A purse belonging to June Tikulski, the dead woman's daughter, with one of her mother's dresses in it was found on the dining room table.

Dr. George Goldenberg, coroner's physician, testified that his examination disclosed signs of several compound fractures of the skull. Marks on her throat, he said, suggested that Mrs. Tikulski may have been strangled as well as beaten.

Talked To Cousin On Phone

Painters who had been working in the apartment below testified they had heard the vacuum cleaner running until about noon, when it was turned off.

Sat 9-4-48

A cousin, Mrs. Elsie Greenspon of 7600 Chappel av., testified that she had talked to Mrs. Tikulski on the telephone about noon and that Mrs. Tikulski said she and the maid were busy with the cleaning.

The hearing, conducted by Deputy Coroner Jack Przybylinski at 6935 Stony Island av., was interrupted for a short time when Mrs. Tikulski's husband, Martin, a sea food salesman, scuffled with a newspaper photografer who attempted to take his picture.

Tikulski formerly was a liquor dealer. He was fined twice in federal courts for violation of liquor price laws before price controls were repealed. In 1944 he was fined $100 and costs and in 1947 he was fined $1.000.

Police Suspect 2 Playmates In Boy's Death

Courier Journal

Sun 11-7-48

Chicago, Nov. 6 (AP)—Police investigating the strangulation slaying of William Gervais, 13, said today they learned several of his playmates were members of a mixed Negro and White teen-age group that indulged in drinking and sex parties.

Louisville Ky

Two of the victim's playmates will be asked to take voluntary lie-detector tests. An inquest into his death was continued to November 18 for further investigation.

Gervais' body was found yesterday in a manhole near Fuller Park on the South Side. Dr. Jerry Kearns, coroner's physician, said the killer had choked Gervais to death with his hands. The youth also had been beaten.

Gervais' mother, Mrs. Clara Foote, 45, suffered a fatal heart attack Thursday night when she went to the Police Station to report her son's disappearance.

13e 1948 Kentucky

13e

2 Policemen Are Rebuked and Fined For Being Too Rough With Negro

The Courier Journal

Sat 10-23-48

McCandless Calls Arrest Justified

Louisville, Ky.

Two policemen, accused of brutality in the arrest last September 29 of Theodore Rowan, Jr., Negro, yesterday were reprimanded and fine five days' pay each by Safety Director David A. McCandless.

Rowan, a student at Fisk University, Nashville, was arrested at 1:40 a.m. at 21st and Hale by Patrolmen John Merrifield, 1416 E. Breckinridge, and Frank S. Boyd, 4333 S. Brook| The policemen said there had been a number of break-ins in the vicinity and that Rowan was seen looking into windows and "shadowing himself" behind a tree.

Came Up At Beef Session.

The brutality charge came up at Mayor Charles Farnsley's beef session where the student's father, Theodore Rowan, Sr., said the police had forced his son into their car and later had beaten him.

Sat 10-23-48

After hearing all the principals and witnesses yesterday, McCandless said: "After mature consideration, I have decided the arrest was justified. The preponderance of the evidence heard shows that there was no brutality. There is, however, sufficient evidence to indicate, in my opinion, that both officers were unnecessarily rough with the complainant after he had been taken into custody."

McCandless added that the testimony was "highly conflicting." This was "heightened," he said, by the fact that young Rowan flatly denied having been arrested previously. Confronted with an F.B.I. record of his arrest in Nashville under similar circumstances, Rowan then admitted he has been arrested. Asked why he had not told the truth, Rowan then said he hadn't understood what was meant by "arrest," McCandless said.

Sat 10-23-48

Arrested for Vagrancy.

The previous arrest, McCandless said, was for vagrancy on April 6, 1947. Rowan, he said, wa spicked up at 3 a.m. in Nashville and later given a fine of $25 which was suspended.

Rowan testified he was walking about, "killing time," until his train to Nashville was ready to leave at 2:10 a.m. He said the officers struck him, shoved him into their car, stopped it at 15th and Kentucky, and beat him again there before taking him to headquarters.

Merrifield testified that when he approached Rowan, the latter had his hand in his pockets. The officer told him to remove his hands but Rowan refused, Merrifield said. The officer then slapped him on the face, he admitted. The officers said the car was stopped at 15th and Kentucky because Rowan said he had to relieve himself. As he got out, he aimed a blow at Boyd, and Boyd hit him, Boyd testified.

Says Identification Lacking.

Two Negro policemen, Patrolmen Jesse Taylor and James Ratliff, testified that they saw Rowan when he was brought in to headquarters and that he had no marks on him.

Sat 10-23-48

McCandless said that testimony showed Rowan was without any identification and that he was walking away from the direction of his home when arrested.

"There had been eight break-ins in that neighborhood before that night," McCandless said. "The officers were entirely justified in questioning Rowan. There have been no break-ins around there since that night."

Police Fined For Being Rough With Ky. Student

Memphis World

Fri 10-29-48

LOUISVILLE.—(ANP)—A penalty of default of five days pay for unnecessary roughness against a Negro was declared against two white policemen here last week by Safety Director David A. McCandless.

Memphis Tenn.

The officers, John Merrifield and Frank S. Boyd, were reprimanded for taking a few punches at Theodore Rowan Jr., a student of Fisk university, on Sept. 29.

Complaint against the officers was brought against them by the boy's father, Theodore Rowan Sr., at the "beef session" of Mayor Charles Farnsley. He said that the patrolmen had forced his son into the squad car and then beaten him.

The student told McCandless he was walking around "killing time" while waiting for a 2:10 a. m. train to Nashville when the police picked him up.

Arrested on Suspicion

Merrifield and Boyd said they picked him up because a number of break-ins had occurred in that vicinity, and they were arresting him on suspicion. Merrifield did admit that he slapped Rowan when he would not take his hands out of his pockets as ordered.

Boyd said he struck the Negro after he had swung at him and missed, first.

Fri 10-29-48

McCandless dismissed charges of brutality against the officers, but fined them for being too rough with the victim.

Folsom Lifts Chair's Shadow From Slayer

Birmingham, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 20—(AP)—The shadow of the electric chair was removed today from Lawrence Nathaniel Phillips.

Gov. James E. Folsom yesterday commuted the convicted negro slayer's death sentence to life imprisonment. The order was issued only eight hours before Phillips was scheduled to die early today in the Kilby prison electric chair.

The governor previously had postponed the execution date 10 times within a year. 2-20-48

Phillips, 22, was convicted of the 1945 hammer slaying of Henry Louie, Chinese laundryman, in Gadsden, Ala. He was originally sentenced to die last March 14 after the State Supreme Court upheld his conviction.

Folsom gave no reason for commuting the sentence.

The Negro's attorneys contended, however, that he was a "moron" and unable to tell right from wrong. They also said he killed the laundryman after discovering he was having an "affair" with the Negro's wife.

The prosecution charged Phillips beat Louie to death in a robbery attempt in which his wife joined. She is serving a 25-year term.

Folsom had previously ordered the execution stayed a total of 10 times. One such stay came after the Negro had eaten his "last meal" and had his head shaved in preparation for the chair.

Two Negroes Get Life In Murder Of Couple

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

TUSCUMBIA, ALA., Jan. 29.—(AP)—Two Colbert County Negroes charged with murder in the slaying of Benjamin H. Beavers, 28, and Mrs. Letha Josephine McKinney, 44, also of Colbert County, were given life imprisonment today following trials in circuit court here. 1-30-48

The Negroes, Harriman Bailey and Johnnie Whiteside, tried separately, were found guilty of murder in the first degree. Mrs. W. Lee Stanley, Colbert County circuit court clerk, said attached to the sentences was a recommendation that no pardon be given them. Montgomery, Ala.

The body of Beavers was found Aug. 5 about 17 miles from Sheffield, and the body of Mrs. McKinney was found Aug. 7 about 10 miles from Sheffield. Both victims had been shot. 1-30-48

The Negroes were taken into custody on Aug. 6. The Advertiser

Officials Botch Job, But Two Men Die In Kilby Electric Chair

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 19—(AP)—A 40-year-old father of seven children and a Negro who prayed for mercy died early today in Kilby Prison's electric chair. Fri.

The two convicted murders met death calmly, despite a mishap in the electrocution of each.

Noel Jackson Grant was put to death for slaying his second wife, Gertha, on March 8, 1947. John Henry Munson, Jr., a 28-year-old Negro, paid with his life for the murder of a Negro woman.

Grant was strapped to the chair at 12:05 a. m. (CST), and the switch was thrown, but his executors found they had neglected to connect the current to the chair. 3-19-48

The former Pensacola, Fla., paper mill worker, breathing heavily, remained composed while prison officials started all over again. The first current of electricity entered his body at 12:09. Two minutes later—at 12:11—he was pronounced dead.

Grant's divorced wife yesterday pleaded in tears with Gov. James E. Folsom to commute his sentence to life imprisonment. Her seven children, including two sets of twins, were with her when she sought the governor's intervention.

Munson smiled when he entered the death chamber a few minutes after Grant was put to death. He mumbled a prayer and continued to pray until the current struck him. His last words were "Lord have mercy." 3-19-48

A loosened strap allowed one of his legs to kick out violently when the current was turned on. He was pronounced dead at 12:22.

Folsom also declined to alter the Negro's sentence.

Negro Gets Life Term In Birmingham Death

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—(AP)—Jack T. Sims, 24, Negro, pleaded guilty Thursday, to a charge of murder in the fatal shooting of a Northside grocery operator last Feb. 2.

He was sentenced to life imprisonment by Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler. Fri.

Sims was accused of murder in the shooting of W. J. Trotter in an attempted holdup at Trotter's store. 6-11-48

Perry Lee Haygood, 26, Negro, was convicted earlier this week of a similar charge and sentenced to death in the electric chair.

Negro To Face Death In Birmingham Killing

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—Perry Lee Haygood, Negro, was sentenced to death Tuesday in the electric chair July 16 following his conviction Wed. a murder charge in the fatal shooting of W. J. Trotter, a northside storekepper last February. 6-9-48

Fellow Convict Killed By Reprieved Slayer

The News

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 8—(AP)—A convicted murderer Gov. Folsom saved from the electric chair 13 months ago faces another murder charge for killing a fellow inmate at Kilby Prison.

Negro Phillip Cobb, the first condemned man to plead for clemency before Gov. Folsom, stabbed another Negro, Jesse Porter, to death Friday while they were working in the cotton mill, Warden Tennyson Dennis reported. Sat.

Cobb was convicted in 1946 of killing his wife and sentenced to death. Folsom commuted the penalty to life in prison. 5-8-48

Alabama law providees that, if a convicted slayer is found guilty of another murder while serving his original sentence, the death penalty will be mandatory.

The slain convict was serving two years for burglary from Calhoun County after completing a previous two-year term for grand larceny. Birmingham, Ala.

Good Citizenship

Newsweek

Hats off to the people of Roanoke, Ala.! Thanks to Editor Stevenson the acquittal of the Negro, Roosevelt Boyd, was not overlooked and passed by unnoticed (NEWSWEEK, March 22). Such incidents give encouragement to hundreds of thousands of Americans who look on in disgust at Ku Klux Klan and other discriminatory activities in the South . . . Although the acquittal is far from anything to boast of, it does show definite progress toward the elimination of racial prejudice . . .

Newsweek

SAMUEL KOMORITA
Dubuque, Iowa 4-19-48

▶ Was it not magnanimous of the all-white Southern bigots of Randolph County to acquit a Negro who defended his land and life from a piece of drunken white trash!

If John Stevenson's letter illustrates an improvement on Southern justice then I must ask: "Quo vadis, rebels, quo vadis?"

PETER M. MOLLICA
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif. 4-19-48

Mobile Mechanic Freed Of Killing Negro Man In 'Civil Rights' Fight

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Sat. 4-17-48

MOBILE, ALA.—(AP)—The Mobile County Grand Jury failed Friday to return an indictment against a 20-year-old white airplane mechanic in connection with the "civil rights" killing of a Negro.

State Solicitor Carl M. Booth made the announcement after the jury made its April report to Circuit Judge Claude A. Grayson.

Booth said the action freed Horace M. Miller, Mississippi born air force veteran who has been at liberty under $2,500 bond since March 17. Miller had been bound over to the grand jury on a murder charge. 4-17-48

The mechanic, formerly employed at the Brookley Air Force base, had been held in connection with the fatal beating of Rayfield Davis, 53, last March 7. Sat.

Detective Capt. Tally Rollings said Miller signed a statement he beat the Negro with his fists and kicked him in a dispute over President Truman's civil rights program. The Advertiser

In his statement, Miller said Davis approached him with the greeting "hey, buddy" and invited him to his house for a drink, Rollings reported. Miller said he became angry when the Negro started talking about racial equality and the President's civil rights program.

Davis' badly beaten body was found in a ditch. Miller surrendered to city police two days later. Montgomery, Ala.

Saved From Chair, Sentenced Again

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 2—(AP)—Less than 14 months after the governor saved him from the electric chair, Phillip Cobb has been sentenced to death again for murder.

The 24-year-old Montgomery Negro was convicted of killing Jesse Porter, a fellow convict at Kilby Prison. Birmingham News

Nearly two years ago Cobb was sentenced to death for the slaying of his wife, but Gov. James E. Folsom commuted his penalty to life imprisonment. He was serving the life term when Porter, another Negro, was stabbed to death last month. Wed. 6-2-48

The condemned Negro was tried yesterday under a mandatory death statue which makes the electric chair compulsory for murder committed while a convict is serving life for a previous capital offense.

Another Negro was given a 20-year prison term yesterday for murder. Leon Bowie, of Birmingham, was convicted of shooting James **Thomas, also a Negro, in an argument over a girl.**

Life Sentence Given In Talladega Slaying

The News 9-17-48

TALLADEGA, Ala., Sept. 17—(AP)—Herron Hamilton was under sentence today of life imprisonment for the knife slaying of a Sylacauga taxicab driver last July 4.

A jury convicted Hamilton on a murder charge after deliberating about an hour yesterday. Defense Attorney H. W. Howard said the case would be appealed.

The Birmingham man was accused of stabbing J. W. Pike to death after the cab driver answered a call. Hamilton denied the charge from the stand. Fri. 9-17-48

Judge W. S. DeBardeleben admitted in evidence Tuesday a recording of a confession allegedly made to State Investigator Ben Allen. During the transcription, a voice identified by Allen as Hamilton's said, "I cut his throat."

Convicted In Grocer's Slaying Green To Face Death In Chair

A 24-year-old Pratt City Negro, Nehemiah Green, must die in Kilby Prison's electric chair Dec. 3, for the slaying of T. C. Solomon, 61, Bush Hills groceryman, last Dec. 13.

A jury in Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler's court brought in the verdict yesterday just an hour after it began deliberation in the case.

Green reportedly confessed to police that he killed the grocryman by shooting him in the back with a pistol and then stabbing him 19 times about the head and chest with an ice pick.

. . . Officers said Green led them to a field several blocks from the scene of the slaying and showed them where he had placed the gun and a part of the several hundred dollars taken from Solomon's store after the slaying. . . .

Officers said Green led them to a field several blocks from the scene of the slaying and showed them where he had placed the gun and a part of the several hundred dollars taken from Solomon's store after the slaying.

Another $184 of the money was found in a sugar bowl in Green's home at 1400 Hibernia Street, officers testified.

When the trial began Monday, Green entered pleas of "not guilty" and "not guilty by reason of insanity."

Throughout the trial, the defendant sat beside counsel and appeared to take no interest in the process of testimony.

When Judge Wheeler read the sentence of death, Green stood motionless, his head slightly bowed, and showed no signs of emotion.

Appeal of a death sentence is aumatic under Alabama law.

Deputy Solicitor Willard McCall handled the prosecution, assisted by Solicitor Emmett Perry.

Jail Terms For Killing Arkansan

Atlanta Daily World

NEWPORT Ark. — (ANP) — Jail sentences were handed down to two white brothers in Circuit Judge S. M. Bone's court here on Wednesday after a jury had found them guilty of second degree murder in the death of John Denton last September. The brothers were Lloyd E., 41 and D. C. McCuistion, 22. Atlanta, Ga.

Wed 3-31-48

Lloyd was sentenced to serve 15 years in the penitentiary, while his brother received a five year sentence. State witnesses testified that the killing was the aftermath of a quarrel started during a poker game in a cabin at Horseshoe Lake. The defense did not present any witnesses, nor did the defendants take the witness stand.

Gets 21 Years In Murder Of Negro

Argus

Saint Louis, Mo.

JONESBORO, Ark. — (ANP) —Found guilty of second degree murder in the slaying of Ralph Donaldson, 28, last Sept. 21 Walter Montague, 52-year-old local businessman, white, was sentenced by Judge Zal Harrison in Craighead circuit court here to 21 years in the state penitentiary. The jury returned its verdict after less than four hours' deliberation. Fri. 1-2-48

Montague, president of the Jonesboro Transfer company, was charged with killing Donaldson, an employe, in company offices in the presence of his brother and sister. The convicted man pleaded self-defense.

His brother, Byrnis, 44, and sister, Miss Gladys Montague, 40, are scheduled to face charges of first degree murder as accessories to the crime, at another term of the court. Montague was released on $20,000 bond pending an appeal to the state supreme court. Fri. 1-2-48

Courier-Journal

Term for Killing Negro Upheld In Arkansas

Tues. 6-1-48

Little Rock, Ark., May 31 (AP) —A 21-year sentence for a white man charged with killing a Negro was affirmed today by the Arkansas Supreme Court.

The defendant, Walter Montague, Jonesboro operator of a moving company, was convicted of second-degree murder for the fatal shooting last September 21 of Ralph Donaldson, 28. 6-1-48

The Supreme Court ruled 4-2 that no reversible error was apparent in the transcript of the lower-court trial.

13c 1948 Legal Sentence (Florida)

Sailor Executed In Florida Chair

Phila Tribune

RAIFORD, Fla. — In the first federal electrocution in this state's history, David J. Watson, a [illegible]-year-old navy man, was executed Wednesday for the slaying of a white sailor.

Watson was convicted of the murder of Benjamin Leroy Hobbs of Nebo, N. C, aboard the USS Stribling, two years ago. He had a prayer on his lips when the first jolt of electricity hit him at 9:11 a. m.

Insanity Plea Made For Doomed Ex-GI

The Courier

Sat 8-7-48

13c

By JOHN A. DIAZ and CALVIN E. ADAMS

(Courier Staff Correspondents)

Pittsburgh, Pa.

L. Sent

MIAMI—A white attorney, touched by the plight of a Negro, ex-World War II veteran, sentenced to die in the electric chair, Aug. 9, for killing a white shipmate, has petitioned President Truman to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

David J. Watson, 24-year-old former Navy cook, was found guilty in the Federal Court and senteneсd to die at the State Prison during the week of Aug. 9. The crime was committed abroad a U. S. Destroyer, July 25, 1946, while in port at Key West.

LENGTHY TRIAL

Fla

Watson was first brought to trial in November, 1946 and found guilty after a lengthy trial. John G. Sawyer, Watson's attorney at that time, contended that the Government failed to prove premeditation and that his client was guilty of nothing more than second degree murder.

A. C. Dressler, appointed by the court to defend Watson has used as the basis of his defense the fact that his client "was in such mental condition at the time he committed the homicide that he was not capable of forming a premeditated design to effect the death of the deceased . . ."

TRUMAN PETITIONED

In his petition to the President, Attorney Dressler stated that "men in the class and mental condition of Watson ought not to go to their doom because of the jury's prejudice and passion outweighing the calm, dispassionate judgement and testimony of two court-appointed scientists and experts in insanity whose selection was not influenced by either Watson or his court-appointed counsel."

Sat 8-7-48

CASE APPEALED

13c

In August, 1947, Watson was sentenced to death for the second time. The case was then appealed to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at New Orleans, then to the U. S. Supreme Court in Washington, D. C., and returned to the Federal Court in Miami.

With Judge John W. Holland presiding, Watson was sentenced to death following the testimony of three doctors that the defendant was not insane but simulating insanity "with the motive of endeavoring to avoid the sentence of death."

NAACP INTERVENTION

Early last week, following his mailing the petition to commute Watson's death sentence to life imprisonment to President Truman, Attorney Dressler sent a transcript of the trial proceedings to Atty. Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C., a member of the NAACP legal staff, in an attempt to get intervention by the organization.

13c 1948

Legal Sentence (General)

131 Executed In U. S. in 1946

Atlanta Constitution

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20—(AP)—The Census Bureau reported Friday that 131 convicted criminals were executed in the United States in 1946. Of these, 107 died for murder; 21 for assault.

Atlanta, Ga.

Nearly half of all executions were in five Southern States: Georgia 16, North Carolina 13, Virginia, Alabama and Mississippi nine each.

Sat 2-21-48

There were 84 Negroes executed, 46 whites, one Indian. Only one of those to die was a woman, a Negro executed in Pennsylvania.

Gets Life Term In White's Death

(13C) The Courier

ATLANTA, Ga.—Paul E. Stubblefield, 22-year-old war veteran, last week won a life imprisonment term after conviction in the murder of an aged white night watchman. The State had asked the death penalty.

Sat 4-24-48

Pittsburgh Pa

Stubblefield had been tried for the bludgeon death of J. M. Hodgins, Jan. 31, at a drive-in theatre. The defendant admitted hitting the white man, explaining that he did it through fear and not with malice and the intent to rob him as claimed in the Fulton Grand Jury indictment.

Valdosta Young Woman Gets 1-5 Years In Slaying

(13C)

VALDOSTA, Ga.—Miss Elizabeth Washington, 19, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter late Tuesday in connection with the ax-slaying of Morris Medove, 57-year-old white cameraman, whose body was found in his studio.

The trial jury set sentence for the young Negro high school student at from one to five years in prison.

The trial, which opened Monday in Lowndes County Superior Court, saw Miss Washington testify that the white man attacked her when she went to collect her weekly wages from him on an off-hour Sunday schedule.

Pleads Guilty To Murder, Man Gets Life Sentence

Atlanta Daily World (13C)

Atlanta Ga.

Henry Allen was meted a life term sentence in Fulton Superior Court Monday when he pleaded guilty to murder in the fatal stabbing of his wife, Mrs. Ewillie Allen which occurred last September 29.

Tue 5-11-48

Death Penalty Meted In Grocer's Slaying

Atlanta 13C Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Albert Glenn, World War II veteran, was sentenced to die in the electric chair when a Fulton Superior court jury found him guilty Tuesday in the holdup slaying of Solomon K. Haddad, white Woodward Avenue grocer, who was shot to death in his store on January 11, 1947.

Wed 5-12-48

Presiding Judge Bond Almand set the date of execution on June 18 as Attorney William Lozier, defense attorney appointed by the court, immediately filed a motion for a new trial.

Glenn's trial had opened on Monday and extended beyond Tuesday noon as several witnesses were called to substantiate and discount his testimony that he was in Laurel, Mississippi at the time of the holdup slaying.

WIDOW TESTIFIES

The widow of the storekeeper said she was in the store at the time of the slaying and was positive that Glenn was one of the two men who shot her husband and robbed him of approximately $600.

Several witnesses for the defense said the last time they saw the defendant was on Wednesday night prior to the Saturday night slaying. On this occasion Glenn had baggage in his possession, stating he was leaving to catch a bus for Mississippi to join his wife, they related.

Wed 5-12-48

In contradiction, the state produced witnesses—all of whom were Negroes—who admitted seeing Glenn in the city since the time of his stated departure and the time Haddad was slain. One witness identified him as one of the two persons seen running from the store after the grocer was shot.

Glenn said he had remained in Mississippi for several months and finding a scarcity of employment there, went to Chicago, Ill., where he was picked by police and extradicted to Fulton county police authorities for trial.

UNABLE TO APPEAR

During Monday's hearing, Glenn's brother strode into the courtroom, saying he had just returned from Mississippi where he attempted unsuccessfully to get their aged aunt to come to Atlanta to substantiate his brother's stated whereabouts at the time of the slaying. The 70 year-old lady could not possibly have made the rugged journey because of her feeble and bed-ridden condition, he added.

The key witness for the state was Mrs. Letha Mae Strozier, wife of Robert Strozier, who was given a life term sentence for his alleged participation in the holdup. She said Glenn was in company with her husband a short time prior to the slaying. She stated further that Glenn came to her immediately after the slaying and informed her that her husband had been shot in the foot.

Ingram Case Hearing Held

Judge Studying New Trial Motion

Sat 4-3-48

SENTENCE HIT

Baltimore Md

Ga. Attorneys Attack 'Injustice'

(13c)

AMERICUS, Ga. —(NNPA) —Attorneys for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Sammie, 14 and Wallace, 17, last Thurs. laid the foundation for an appeal to hig courts.

They told Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper in the historic Sumter Courthouse last Thursday that the jury which convicted the trio of murder "went hog wild."

After hearing arguments the judge took the motion for a new trial under advisement.

White Man Killed

The Ingrams are under sentence of death for the killing of John E. Stratford, 66-year old white tenant farmer.

They originally were scheduled to die in a Georgia prison on Feb. 27, but their execution was stayed upon the filing of a motion for a new trial.

Stratford was killed in November, 1947, after he had threatened Mrs. Ingram during an argument over the Ingram's mule being in his field. He was beaten to death with his own rifle, a hoe and a claw hammer.

Defendants Not in Court

The Ingrams were not present in the courtroom when the motion for a new trial was argued.

It was revealed that they were confined in the Sumter County jail. This was the first disclosure of their whereabouts since they were secretly moved from the Dougherty County jail at Albany, Georgia.

Sat 4-3-48

This latest chapter in the sensational case was unfolded before a sparse crowd of whites, who lined front row seats in the small courtroom.

Colored spectators, traditionaly barred from the main floor in the Sumter County Courthouse, packed the gallery.

Colored Reporters Let In

State troopers, aided by county officers, policed the corridors and for several minutes barred colored reporters from the main floor.

Defense attorneys interceded in behalf of the reporters and on orders of Judge Harper they were admitted.

Only halfway through the hearing did colored photographers get the "go" sign. It was then too late for photographs, although State troopers had admitted a white news service photographer.

The Ingrams were represented at the hearing by Troy Morrow of Ellaville, Hawkins Dykes of Americus, and an Atlanta attorney.

Holds Trial Unjust

In opening the plea for a new trial, Mr. Morrow contended that "the jury went beyond the evidence. Unless the condemned persons are granted a new trial they will suffer an injustice," he declared.

He insisted that there was no "premeditation and they did not intend to kill," citing, the fact that the trio had engaged Stratford in "one continous struggle and had no time to gain their composure."

He asked "a new trial and a fair and considerate jury."

Says "Hands Are Clean"

Solicitor General E. L. Forrester said the State Constitution only guaranteed anyone accused of crime 'one fair trial'. When they have had one fair trial," Forrester said, "they don't have any right to another simply because they didn't like the verdict."

Forrester said that defense attorneys had filed ony a skeleton motion for a new trial and had not challenged the fairness of the frist trial. He described the case as "cruel and barbarous murder."

He said "our hands are clean," adding that he had never demanded "of any jury to inflict the death penalty."

He declared that "I did not tell the jury they shouldn't electrocute a teen-ager and I never intend to. "I have no apology for the jury's action . . . no apology for Schley County . . . one of the most law-abiding counties in the United States.

Sat 4-3-48

"I will never agree that the law of murder be wiped off the statute books."

Victim's Gun Figures

After a five minute recess the court heard Mr. Dykes argue that "Stratford ment to use the gun or he would have left it at home."

He questioned the charge of the trial judge regarding the confession of the defendants. He said "a single confession against John Doe can only be used against that defendant."

He said the State failed to prove malice and did not have evidence of malice. He said the jury ignored undisputed evidence that Stratford struck the first blow and insisted that felonious assault was a matter of law.

"It was the duty of the court to instruct the jury on every material issue of the case," he pointed out.

"There was no evidence that the defendants were advised "they did not have to make a statement and the confessions were gotten before they were represented by counsel."

Rehearing For Ingrams Asked

Atlanta Daily World

The Supreme Court of Georgia Friday was petitioned by Attorney A. T. Walden, representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, for a rehearing of the Ingram case.

(13c)

The high state court on July 13 affirmed the judgment of the trial court, denying a motion for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons who are under life term conviction for the self-defense slaying of John Ed Stratford, white Ellaville sharecropper.

Atlanta Ga.

Attorney Walden said that the motion for a rehearing of the Ingram case was based on the claim that the court overlooked or failed to give proper consideration to material factors in the case, which, if considered, would have led to a different decision.

Sun. 7-25-48

The Ingrams originally were sentenced to die by electrocution in the January trial. Trial Judge W. M. Harper commuted the death sentences upon appeal by NAACP counsel.

Attorney Walden said the court usually decided in a week or ten days on rehearing pleas.

Takes Case Under Advisement; Jury Erred, Court Told

The Courier

Sat 4-3-48

(13c)

Pittsburgh Pa

State Troopers Guard Courthouse as Lawyers Present Arguments; Negro Photographers and Newsmen Forced to Find Space in Gallery

AMERICUS, Ga.—Judge William H. Harper of the Southwest Georgia Judicial Circuit told The Courier Monday he was uncertain as to when he would render his decision in the motion for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, condemned to die for slaying a white sharecropper. He said he was still studying the records, and that the state of his health precluded any immediate decision on his part.

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

AMERICUS, Ga.—Contending that the jury which convicted Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Sammie, 14, and Wallace, 16, disregarded the judge's charge and "went hog-wild" in dooming the trio to die for a "self-defense" slaying, defense counsel asked for a new trial here last Thursday.

Sat 4-3-48

After hearing arguments in a crowded courtroom of Negro and white spectators, Superior Judge W. M. Harper took under advisement their plea.

In the meantime it was revealed that the doomed Ingrams were in Sumter County jail, having been moved here from the Dougherty County Jail in Albany after the sheriff complained that the press of publicity and interest groups kept his office from carrying out the duties of office.

The Ingrams were not brought to court.

NEGROES IN GALLERY

Negroes packed the gallery section of the courthouse, but few whites were present. State troopers and courthouse deputies were on guard to see that order was kept, even barring Negro newsmen and photographers from the main floor of the building before the intercession of Judge Harper.

Three attorneys appeared in behalf of Mrs. Ingram and her sons. They were Troy Morrow of Ellaville, where the slaying of John Ed Stratford, white farmer, took place after he had attacked Mrs. Ingram in a field with gun in hand; Hawkins Dykes of Americus, and Austin T. Walden, NAACP counsel of Atlanta.

"SUFFER INJUSTICE"

Morrow opened the plea for a new trial, contending that the trial jury went beyond the evidence. "Unless they are granted a new trial," he told Judge Harper, "they will suffer an injustice."

As to the evidence in the case, Morrow said there was no "premeditation" of the "intention to kill" on the part of the Ingrams, such as would have been necessary to convict for murder under Georgia law.

Sat 4-3-48

"There was one continuous struggle and they had no time to gain their composure," Morrow told the judge while asking for a new trial and a fair and considerate jury.

"DIDN'T SHOW MURDER"

NAACP Attorney Walden also argued that the evidence in the Schley County case did not show murder. Citing the judge's charge and the disregard of it by the trial jurors, Walden declared. "The trial judge is the thirteenth juror and the verdict doesn't mean much unless it reaches the approval of the trial judge who must determine whether substantial justice is done. If the judge's orders had been carried out the jury could not have found a verdict of murder."

RIPS AND SNORTS

But, Solicitor General E. L. Forrester contended the Ingrams had been given a fair trial, as guaranteed under the State constitution. In rip-snorting fashion he shouted: "When they have had one fair trial, they don't have any right to another simply because they didn't like the verdict."

In the language and fashion of the "preaching" Georgia prosecutor, Forrester described the Stratford slaying, as, "cruel and barbarous murder." He accused defense counsel of only filing a skeleton motion for new trial and contended they had not challenged the fairness of the first trial.

"HANDS ARE CLEAN"

"Our hands are clean," he shouted for the State and court, stating that the latter had an illustrious history. "We have a case so clean that they can't put their hands upon one single thing."

While stating that he never demanded any jury to inflict the death penalty, Forrester said he "did not tell the jury they shouldn't electrocute a teen-ager (referring to the Ingram boys) and I never intend to."

Further, Forrester said he had no apology for action by the Schley County jury in finding the Ingrams guilty of murder.

WHY THE GUN?

Defense Atty. Hawkins Dykes, following a five-minute recess, pointed out that Stratford went into the field to use his gun, "or he would have left it at home. Dykes questioned the judge's charge regarding an alleged confession of the defendants, stating that "a single confession against John Doe can only be used against that defendant."

Sat 4-3-48

Blasting the jury's disregard of the evidence as presented, Dykes pointed out that Stratford struck the first blow and that it was the duty of the court to instruct the jury on every issue of the case. He also pointed out that there was no evidence that the defendants were advised before making the "alleged" confession used against them in the trial and that they had no counsel before making statements.

CONFESSION ATTACKED

Dykes contended that the worst crime of which the Ingrams could have been convicted was manslaughter. He also argued that the jury ignored instructions by Judge Harper that if the two teen-age boys were going to assist their mother, they were in no way guilty of a crime.

Attacking the alleged confession further, Dykes pointed out that a fourth Jackson, was convicted only of the larceny of $130 from the body of the white man.

Loren Miller, 13 lawyers map fight to free Ingram

WASHINGTON — Loren Miller of Los Angeles, was one of 1 lawyers meeting here this week in a two-day conference to explore possible state and federal actions to test the validity of the conviction of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons.

Sat 9-25-48

The conference, which was called by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, decided that further legal research was required before any action could be taken. Procedures for continuing the fight for the Ingrams' freedom was agreed upon.

[illegible]

Mrs. Ingram and her two sons are now under sentence of life imprisonment following their conviction by an all-white jury for the slaying of John E. Stratford, white, who lived on a neighboring farm. The original sentence of death was vacated by the judge after the NAACP, through attorney Austin T. Walden of Atlanta, filed a motion for a new trial. The motion was denied as was the subsequent appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Sat 9-25-48

Attending the conference, in addition to Marshall and Miller, were W. Robert Ming, Chicago; Spottswood W. Robinson, Richmond, Va.; Governor William H. Hastie of the Virgin Islands; William McClain and Theodore M. Berry of Cincinnati; James N. Nabrit, George Johnson, Frank D. Reeves and Herbert Reid of Washington.

Truman Unaware of Ingrams' Plight; He Tells Newsmen

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) — President Truman had not heard until last Thursday of the case of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Wallace, 16, and Sammien, 14, who are under sentence of death for the killing of John E. Stratford, 66-year-old white tenant farmer, in Ga.

Sat 9-25-48

Asked at his press conference whether the Justice Department or any member of the White House staff had brought the case to his attention, Mr. Truman replied that the question was the first he had heard of it.

The Justice Department has been studying the case, but it is doubtful whether any Federal law has been violated.

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14 Lawyers Outline Next Steps to Free Ingrams

[illegible] Sat 9-25-48 [illegible]

Agree That Further Legal Research Is Necessary Before Reopening Case in Georgia

WASHINGTON

Further legal research is necessary before any other action can be taken to obtain the reduction of sentences of life imprisonment given Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teenage sons for slaying a white farmer in Georgia in self-defense.

This conclusion was reached by 14 lawyers called here for a conference on the case,, Sept. 14-15, by Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel.

Procedures Outlined

Procedures for continuing the fight to free the Ingrams were agreed upon after exploring all possible State and Federal actions to test the validity of the Ingrams' conviction based upon a miscarriage of justice.

Sat 9-25-48

Conferees Listed

Mrs. Ingram and her sons were convicted by an all-white jury for the slaying of John E. Stratford, white farmer, who lived on a neighboring farm.

The original sentence of death was vacated by the judge after defense attorney, filed a motion for a new trial. The motion was denied as was a subsequent appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Sat 9-25-48

Attending the conference, in addition to Mr. Marshall, were W. Robert Ming, Chicago; Loren Miller, Los Angeles; Spottswood W. Robinson, Richmond, Va.; Gov. William H. Hastie of the Virgin Islands; William McClain and Theodore M. Berry, Cincinnati;

James N. Nabrit, George Johnson, Frank D. Reeves and Herbert Reid, Washington, D.C.; and Mrs. Marian Wynn Perry, Franklin H. Williams and Jesse O. Dedmon, NAACP staff members.

Reveal Mrs. Ingram Moved to Another Jail

Daily Worker

Special to the Daily Worker Mon 10-18-48

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 17.—As the first year of Rosa Lee Ingram's life imprisonment approaches, word has reached north that she has just been moved to still another jail, and her family is in want.

New York, N.Y.

In a letter to Philadelphia friends her eldest daughter, Mrs. Geneva Rushin, writes that Mrs. Ingram keeps being transferred from one jail to another and is now located in the August, Ga., prison.

Mrs. Ingram, mother of 12 children, is appealing a life term with two of her sons for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer who attacked her last Nov. 4.

Mrs. Rushin, who is caring for the young Ingram children in a deserted sharecropper's cabin, writes that "the kids are now going to school and need shoes and school clothes that will stand the cold weather. They have summer clothes but it is getting cold here now.

"About a stove, I just got one myself. I had to pay $5 down and $5 a month. I am going to the president of the NAACP here and ask him to help me on the payments for it. We haven't seen him in about five months."

In the same letter Mrs. Rushin writes her Philadelphia friends: "I haven't heard from Mr. White yet. I also wrote Mr. Walden of Atlanta, Ga., and haven't heard from him, so I don't know what to do."

Walter White is president of the NAACP, and is now on leave as special consultant to the United Nations delegation in Paris. Mr. Walden is head of the Atlanta NAACP.

Mon 10-18-48

Mrs. Rushin writes that she doesn't even have "a little money to send her (mother) to buy her some snuff. I don't get any money here to spend."

It has been previously announced that over $40,000 has been raised for the Ingram defense by the NAACP and other groups that have turned over contributions to it.

Mon 10-18-48

The International Workers Order has brought two of the Ingram boys north and is raising a separate fund for their education and care.

Rosa Lee Ingram Told Me: 'Save My Children'

The Worker

New York, N.Y.

Rosa Lee Ingram's mother, Mrs. Amy Hunt, reveals that her daughter's honor was at stake when the white farmer who attacked her last fall was killed. Mrs. Hunt, who has just returned from a visit to her family in Georgia, also reveals that her daughter's children are in danger from white supremacists. Mrs. Hunt's story of the Ingram Case, as told in her own words to Walter Lowenfels, follows.

By MRS. AMY HUNT

Sun. 8-1-48

I HAVE just seen my daughter, Rosa Lee Ingram. I made her a visit in the jail house in Macon, Georgia. It was the first time I have seen my child since she got into her trouble.

I saw her children, too. Rosa Lee told me: "You better get them up north with you, Mamma. They might get into trouble down here."

After I left the jail, I found out what she meant. There are some white folks in Ellaville who might get them into trouble. They might burn them out.

That's another thing I learned in Georgia. That farmer, John Stratford, who was killed—he tried to go with my daughter. He wanted her to go into the crib house with him.

He was angry because she wouldn't go with him. He tore her sweater. That's how my daughter got into her trouble. She wouldn't go with that white man.

Now the jail in Macon is a nice clean pail. It's not like some of the other jails where Rosa Lee has been. She told me they keep her nice and clean. She told me not to worry—she get's plenty to eat.

The white man who keeps the jail, he told me: "Amy, don't worry about your daughter. I want you to see what a nice, clean jail we got here."

The Worker

And I said to him: "Yes, mister, I can **see you keep a fine,** clean jail."

But they oughtn't to keep my daughter **in it. They oughtn't** to keep Rosa Lee **from her children for** life. She is a good woman. She wouldn't go with that white man. So now she is in jail for life.

Mister Walter, you don't know how they treat colored people down there. It ain't like it is up here. You ain't supposed to put a hand on a white man, even if he wants to kill you or make you go with him.

New York, N.Y.

Now Rosa Lee had a grown daughter about 19. Her name is Rosie Olla. This child is married and was living on a white man's farm. It was near where my daughter had her trouble in Ellaville.

I ain't seen her name in the papers. But when Rosa Lee had her trouble, Rosie Olla had to move out. She couldn't even take her furniture. The white people in Ellaville said: "We don't want any of Rosa Lee's relatives around here."

So Rosie Olla had to move out quick. She's living near my daughter's children now and I saw her.

Sun. 8-1-48

Mr. Walter, those children aren't safe down there. It's so pitiful it makes me cry. One is just a crawler, 20 months old. But you should see how they are living while Rosa Lee is in jail.

Ingram Fund Still Growing

Atlanta Daily World

Wed.- 6-9-48

NEW YORK—(SNS)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People received $803.09 this week in contributions to the Ingram Defense Fund, bringing the grand total to $31,783.43. Of this money, the largest amount, $23,162.74, has been donated by NAACP branches; $1,444.53 has come from individuals; $1,214.43 has been contributed by churches; and organizations have given $6,001.93. Among the organizations which contributed to the fund this week are the 82nd Transportation Truck Company (Pacific Ocean Area), Madison County (Indiana) Industrial Union Council, order of Eastern Star Pride Chapter 609 (Alabama), Negro Women Incorporated (New York) and United Steel Workers of America (Indiana).

Will Appeal Case Of Negro Family

The Constitution

4-9-48

NEW YORK, April 8—(AP)—The case of a Negro woman and her two teen-age sons, whose original sentences to death were changed by the trial judge to life imprisonment, will be appealed to the Georgia Supreme Court.

Announcement that the fate of Rosa Lee Ingram and her sons, Wallace, 16, and Sammie Lee, 14, was far from settled was made Thursday by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Atlanta Ga.

Marshall said that A. T. Walden, Atlanta Negro Attorney, would aid him in the appeal. Fri.

The death sentences were set aside by Judge William M. Harper who ruled that the mother and sons were convicted on circumstantial evidence. 4-9-48

Under Georgia law, the Ingrams would become eligible for parole after serving seven years of the life sentence.

They were convicted of killing a white tenant farmer in an argument over a mule.

Will Hear Ingram Appeal Monday

Daily Worker

Thu. 6-10-48

Attorneys for the National Association for Advancement of Colored People will appear before the Georgia Supreme Court in Atlanta Monday to argue an appeal against sentences of life imprisonment in the case of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, Negro mother, and her two teen-age sons.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons, Wallace and Sammie, of Ellaville, Ga., were sentenced Jan. 27 to die in the electric chair for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer. Protests against the sentence poured into the office of Gov. Melvin E. Thompson. An appeal to Superior Judge W. M. Harper in Americus, Ga., April 6, resulted in commutation of sentences to life imprisonment.

The fight for freedom of the mother and sons continued with labor, civic, church and fraternal organizations throughout the land supporting the NAACP. The case reached the Georgia Supreme Court last month.

The Daily Worker, through its columns and a special pamphlet, was first to launch a nation-wide appeal for freedom of the Ingrams.

Appearing in behalf of the Ingrams in the Georgia high court will be Edward R. Dudley of New York, assistant special NAACP counsel, and Austin T. Walden, of Atlanta. 6-10-48

Mrs. Ingram and her sons are being held in the Macon jail. Mrs. Ingram is the mother of 12 children.

TO APPEAL LIFE SENTENCES FOR MRS. INGRAM AND SONS

Los Angeles Tribune

NEW YORK — New sentences of life imprisonment for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons will be appealed to the Supreme Court of Georgia, Thurgood Marshall, special NAACP counsel, announced here last week. Sat. 4-17-48

The death sentence which previously had been imposed on the trio for the slaying of a neighboring white farmer in Schley County, Ga., was vacated April 6 by Judge William M. Harper of Americus, Ga., following argument by NAACP lawyers on a motion for a new trial. The motion was denied and the life sentences imposed.

Mrs. Ingram, the widowed mother of 12 children, and her two sons were convicted by an all-white jury in a one-day trial last Feb. 3. The slain man, John E. Stratford, was killed Nov. 4, 1947 in a struggle which followed an argument with Mrs. Ingram about some of her stock which had strayed across the line onto the land farmed by Stratford. The Ingram boys came to the rescue of their mother. The death, they claimed, was justified homicide.

4-17-48

The Tribune does job printing. Call RO. 4993.

INGRAM APPEAL FILED IN GEORGIA SUPREME COURT

New York, Daily Worker

AMERICUS, Ga., May 3.—An appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia has been filed by attorneys representing Rosa Lee Ingram and her two 'teen-age sons, Wallace and Sammie Lee Ingram, who face life imprisonment terms for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer.

Convicted at a special session of Schley Superior Court, the three were sentenced to be electrocuted at Reidsville on Feb. 27. An appeal of this verdict to Superior Judge W. M. Harper of the Southwest Circuit resulted in commutation of sentences to life imprisonment, but he denied a new trial request.

Wed. 5-4-48

The appeal to the Supreme Court was based on the following grounds:

- Because the verdict was contrary to the evidence and without evidence to support it.
- Because the verdict was decidedly and strongly against weight of evidence, and
- Because the verdict was contrary to law and principles of justice and equity. 5-4-48

A ruling by the higher court is expected in several weeks. It was indicated that in event of an unfavorable verdict, the case will be later taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Ingram Case

Editor Constitution: Since there are two sides to every question, why not consider both sides sometimes or argue the side you choose from a logical point of view. Your recent editorial stated that a white farmer went to the Ingram's home with a loaded gun to argue about livestock from their place running on his. Even the inmates in the insane asylum know that a person does not carry his loaded shotgun around for arguing purposes only. The Constitution

Let us reverse the case for a while, suppose a Negro farmer had gone to a home of a white woman with his loaded gun to argue about livestock. When an argument or whatever happened between the two started, her sons came to the rescue of their mother and in so doing the Negro died from a beating with his own loaded gun. The court's decision: "A white woman and her two sons get life imprisonment." Do you think your editorial would have read the same?

"Certinly a man was killed." Atlanta, Ga.

"We are glad the court disposed of the case as is." Thurs. 4-15-48

Frankly speaking, no.

Atlanta.

JOSEPH A. DAVISON,
Atlanta University.

Veteran Gets Life Term In Slaying Of Watchman

Daily World

BY C. LAMAR WEAVER

A tense silence gripped Fulton Superior court Tuesday when an all white jury—which had been deadlocked for approximately two hours—filed into the courtroom and returned its verdict of guilty with recommendation of mercy against Paul E. Stubblefield, 22-year-old veteran charged with the murder of a 63-year old white nightwatchman.

The small statured defendant was accused of bludgeoning to death J. M. Hodgins on January 31 while the latter was on duty at the Piedmont Drive-In Theater, located on Piedmont Road. Atlanta, Ga.

The sentence, as returned carries with it life imprisonment. Under Georgia law a life-termer is eligible for parole in seven years depending on his conduct during the seven years of confinement. Wed. 4-14-48

PECULIAR CASE

Perhaps one of the most peculiar murder cases to confront a jury, the Stubblefield case was an oddity in that the defendant readily admitted that he bludgeoned the aged man to death but explained that he did it through fear and not with malice and intent to rob as the indictment pointed out. Daily World

The perplexity of the case was inhanced when it was learned that the open-air theater where the watchman was killed secreted no valuables for a robbery motive.

A former employe of the theater, Stubblefield related remorsefully and nervously that he delivered the fatal blow in excitement when he came suddenly face to face with the watchman and thought he held a gun in his hand. Daily World

His reason for being at the theater was to scour the theater grounds for nickels and dimes lost by theater patrons, the unemployed Pacific war veteran declared.

ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY

Court testimony showed the defendant was picked up almost immediately after the bludgeoning by county officers performing a routine check of his presence in the community at such an early hour in the morning. Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 4-14-48

Defense Attorneys A. L. Henson and W. A. Spence argued vigorously for their client, stressing the absence of previous criminal record and the lack of an established motive in the case. They claimed that Stubblefield at the excitable moment of the watchman's approach was attempting to knock the flashlight from his hand which he believed to be a pistol. The state failed to establish malicious intent, Attorney Henson declared.

Undaunted by the stirring rebuttable by his opponents, Assistant Solicitor William Boyd shouted robbery was the motive. Painting a melancholy picture of Hodgins' widow in destitute condition since the nightwatchman's death, he reminded the jury that her sole support was dead.

With fiery articulation, Assistant Sol Boyd implored the jury to return the death penalty.

When the jury filed into the court room before the jury box, the eager and intent spectators edged forward in their seats, some with their hands cupped around their ears, apparently to hear clearly the verdict as pronounced. Daily World

While Stubblefield sat alone in the defendant's chair—his wife, who had been at his side during the entire trial—peered anxiously at the jury from a corner bench while she rocked in her arms with increasing tempo her five-months-old baby. Atlanta, Ga.

The dramatic silence which met the jury's return was stilled further when Presiding Judge E. E. Andrews asked the foreman if they had reached a verdict. Wed. 4-14-48

The anxiety of the spectators was satiated when the solicitor read it to the court.

The widow of the dead man was seen entering county police headquarters with the arresting officers shortly after the verdict was returned. The officer carried in his hand the yard-long water pipe alleged to be the fatal weapon.

INGRAM FUND NEARS
$40,000 MARK

July 1, 1948

NAACP New York, N.Y.

Thur. 7-1-48

NEW YORK, July 1.-- Three NAACP branches presented large contributions, totalling $2773.33, to the Ingram Defense Fund at the 39th annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which met in Kansas City, Mo., June 22-27. The New Orleans, La., branch presented a check of $100; $1,304.69 was contributed by the New York City branch; the Chicago branch donated $1,368.64

These contributions, plus several others made during the past two weeks, have increased the total amount collected by the NAACP to defend Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons to $39,022.50. Of this total, $27,146.23 has been received from NAACP branches; individuals have given $1,510.98; churches have donated $1,357.78; and $6,373.38 has come from organizations. Among the organizations contributing in the last two weeks are the UAW (Bremen, Ind.), the United Steelworkers of America (Milwaukee, Wis.), the Home and Foreign Aid Society (Helena, Ark.), the Three V's Club (McKeesport, Pa.), the Upholsterers, Frame and Bedding Workers (Minneapolis, Minn.), the Citizen Council (Santa Barbara, Calif.) and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (Evansville, Ind.).

On June 17, the Pittsburgh Courier Publishing Company turned over to the Ingram Defense Fund $2,555.73 which had been donated by Courier readers.

Appeal To Supreme Court Is Indicated

Memphis World

Memphis, Tenn.

Fri. 4-9-48

Tuesday, although Judge Harper was following a definite provision under the Georgia code. When a trial jury brings in a murder verdict, without recommendation of mercy, the presiding officer may, when the state's case was based mainly on circumstantial evidence order the lesser penalty of life imprisonment. Ordinarly, conviction for murder, without recommendation of mercy by the trial jury, calls for imposition of the death penalty.

20-DAY PERIOD

Attorney Hawkins Dykes, of Americus, chief defense counsel in the retrial hearing, said by telephone Tuesday night that he expects to file motion to carry the case to the Georgia Supreme Court. He must do so within 20 days, under Georgia law.

Fri. 4-9-48

Attorney A. T. Walden, NAACP counsel, said he was sure that the case would be appealed, but that he and other counsel had not conferred with the Ingrams on the matter and that their consent must be secured.

What the official attitude of national headquarters of the NAACP would be on the latest development was yet to be seen. The NAACP, through the consent of Mrs. Ingram has taken over the defense of the imprisoned mother and her sons.

Mrs. Ingram and her two sons, Wallace and Sammie Lee, were convicted in Ellaville, in January on a charge of slaying John E. Stratford, a white sharecropper, last November.

Fri. 4-9-48

ATTACKED IN FIELD

The Ingrams claimed that Stratford attacked the mother with gun in hand in a field near their farm house and that they subdued him only after striking blows with his own weapon which he dropped in a scuffle. Feeling between the Ingrams and Stratford reportedly arose over farm animals belonging to the former straying into the white farmer's fields. Mrs. Ingram further claimed that the white man had been picking after her and insisting she needed a man after her husband died.

Memphis, Tenn.

One son was acquitted in the slaying after a white farmer testified he was not in the field, while another received a 12-month sentence on a charge of taking a wallet containing money from the body of the slain man. Eight other Ingram children, all minors except one, are living with a farmer near Americus at present.

Memphis World

The Ingram case continues to evoke nationwide interest. Funds for care of the family and defense of the imprisoned continue to agencies dedicated to that purpose.

Rehearing Sought in Ingram Case

The Afro-American

Baltimore, Md.

Thur. 7-29-48

ATLANTA — A petition for rehearing of the Ingram case is being submitted to the Suprem Court of Georgia by the NAACP

This action follows the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court in affirming, on July 13, the judgment of the trial court denying a motion for a new trial.

Mrs. Rosa L. Ingram and her two teen-aged sons were convicted by a Georgia jury for the self-defmese slaying of a white sharecropper and were sentenced to die in the electric chair on Feb. 27.

DONATIONS CONTINUE TO INGRAM DEFENSE FUND

May 20, 1948

NAACP Press, New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 5-20-48

NEW YORK, May 20-- This week's contributions to the Ingram Defense Fund total $1,342.41, raising the amount of money collected through the NAACP for the defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons to $29,894.67.

The largest amount of money, $21,483.30, has come from NAACP branches. Individuals have donated $1,416.28, while churches have sent in $1,136.46. Among the organizations, which have contributed $5,858.63 to the fund, are the Dane County (Wisconsin) Citizens for Wallace, Hawaii Civil Liberties Commission, New York City College's Interracial Society, Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress, Jefferson (Pennsylvania) Good Samaritan Club, and the Negro Women's Federated Club in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Daily Worker
New York
Tues. 6-15-48

Georgia Supreme Court Hears Ingram Appeal

By Mary Southard

ATLANTA, Ga., June 14.—In the oak-paneled courtroom in Georgia's capitol, defense attorneys presented arguments before the State Supreme Court for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, Wallace and Sammie Lee.

Mrs. Ingram, Negro mother of 13 children, imprisoned under life sentence with her two sons in Macon, was represented by Edward Dudley, of the legal staff of the National Association for Colored People, and A. T. Walden, Atlanta Negro attorney.

6-15-48

In an hour-long argument, the two attorneys reviewed the facts around the slaying of William Stratford, white tenant farmer, argued that Mrs. Ingram and her sons were acting in self-defense.

DENIED FAIR TRIAL

They pointed out that the defendants were rushed to trial only four days after being indicted, that they had been rushed from jail to jail and made to give statements without being informed of their rights and without benefit of counsel, and that these statements and not the evidence at the trial had formed the main basis for conviction

On April 5 the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, after the Superior Court in Schley county had refused to grant a new trial.

The solicitor from Schley county, E. L. Forrester, countered with a fantastic array of photographs and a mumble-jumble about footprints at the scene of the struggle, in an effort to show that Mrs. Ingram and her sons committed a premeditated murder. Several of the six justices questioned both his procedure and the material he attempted to introduce.

ADMIT FARMER ATTACKED

No denial was made of the fact that the deceased farmer had threatened to shoot Mrs. Ingram's stock, that he went home to get his rifle, and that he was beating Mrs. Ingram with his rifle after threatening her.

6-15-48

The nearly full courtroom was not segregated. Many Negro NAACP labor and civic leaders were present, as well as a three-man delegation from the Progressive Party of Georgia (the Wallace Party)

The Supreme Court will take the motion for a new trial under advisement, and is expected to render a decision within a month or six weeks.

The NAACP has indicated it will carry the case to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary.

A Brief History Of the Ingram Case

The Courier
Pittsburgh
Sat. 7-10-48

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 40, mother of fourteen children (two dead) became a widow last August when her 64-year-old husband died.

Forced to take over duties of her sharecropper farm, she was confronted by John E. Stratford, neighbor sharecropper, who tried to make her his mistress.

* * *

Stratford was killed in a field road last Nov. 4, allegedly by Wallace Ingram, 16, when Stratford attacked Mrs. Ingram with a gun and knife.

* * *

Mrs. Ingram, Wallace and another son, Sammie Lee, 145, were sentenced to die following their trial during the first week of February. Another Ingram boy, Jackson, was given twelve months for stealing Stratford's pocketbook. A fourth son, Charlie, was acquitted.

* * *

Death sentence was set for Feb. 27, but hearings on a motion for a new trial was postponed three times. On April 6, Trial Judge William H. Harper denied the Ingrams a new trial but commuted their death sentences to life imprisonment.

* * *

The case went before the Georgia State Supreme Court June 14, at which time defense attorneys asked that the Ingrams be granted a new trial. The court has not handed down a decision.

* * *

The Ingrams now are in the Bibb County Jail, Monroe, Ga., and since their arrest have been in a total of six prisons.

* * *

While imprisoned in the jail at Albany, Ga., Mrs. Ingram suffered a heart attack.

Recently, Mrs. Ingram was sued by her ex-landlord. He claims Mrs. Ingram owes him $194.

* * *

Under the present sentence, the Ingrams are eligible for parole after serving seven years. If granted a new trial by the State Supreme Court, they cannot again be sentenced to the chair. In event of a new trial, the trial judge, under the Georgia law, would have to instruct the jury on two things—voluntary manslaughter and self-defense. Voluntary manslaughter carries the stiffest penalty—one to twenty years. A prisoner serving a term for voluntary manslaughter in Georgia is eligible for parole after serving one-third of the sentence.

CRC to Support Ingram Children

The Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

NEW YORK — Support for the eight children of Rosa Lee Ingram was voted at a meeting of Civil Rights Congress' executive board recently following a report from Georgia on their status. Mrs. Ingram and two of her sons have been sentenced to death and are being held pending action on a motion for a new trial. Eight of her children, including a seventeen-month-old baby, are being cared for by a married daughter, Mrs. Geneva Rushin. 4-13-48

Money will be appropriated by officers of Civil Rights Congress from the "Prisoner's Relief Fund," maintained to aid prisoners and members of their families.

Jewish women donate to Ingram defense fund

A protest to Georgia authorities against the death sentence of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two 'teen-age boys for the murder of a neighboring white sharecropper who allegedly had attacked them, was sent this week by the Emma Lazarus Division, women's auxiliary to the Jewish People's Fraternal Order here.

Along with the protest, President Pearl Fagelson said the division sent $60 to the Ingram Defense committee in Georgia.

Ingram Life Sentences Meet Storm of Protest

Defender

ATLANTA—The wave of protests that last February saved the lives of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and two of her sons mounted again this week immediately after life sentences for the trio were upheld by the Georgia Supreme Court in the slaying of a white tenant farmer.

Sentiment here is that Mrs. Ingram and her sons, 16 and 14. should be absolved of all blame in the death. Leaders throughout this neighboring states are reported completing new strategy and marshalling forces to free the Ingrams.

Chicago, Ill.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons, Wallace and Sammie Lee, were originally convicted of first degree murder January 26 in the death of John E. Stratford, white, a 66-year-old tenant farmer, November 4, 1947.

Sat. 7-24-48

They were sentenced to die in the electric chair February 27 but Trial Judge W. M. Harper set aside the death penalty after protests from all over the country. He ruled they had been convicted on circumstantial evidence.

The case was then appealed to the State Supreme Court. Another son, Jackson Ingram, Jr., was sentenced to a year when he pleaded guilty to a charge of taking money from the dead man's pockets. A fourth son, Charlie Ingram, 17, was acquitted.

7-24-48

The Ingrams declare they killed the farmer in self defense with his own rifle, a hoe and a claw hammer. They say Stratford attacked the mother after an argument over a mule going into his grounds.

The Ingram Appeal Case

Daily World

The Georgia Supreme Court in a unanimous decision Tuesday, denied the appeal of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-aged sons, now under sentence for the slaying of a white farmer of Schley County last January 26. The opinion, as handed down by the Justices, reads in part:

"We are not unmindful of the principle of law as embodied in our Code 26-1015 that parents and children may mutually protect each, and justify the defense of the person or reputation of each other. This principle of law, however, does not afford a basis of justification of homicide upon the facts showing that the danger to relative was not impending.

Atlanta, Ga.

"While our conclusions in this case might have been different had the State's evidence shown one encounter with the children of Rosa Ingram coming to the aid and protection of their mother and the killing then occuring while the parties were engaged in fighting. . In passing on the general grounds of a motion for a new trial this court passes not upon the weight but the sufficiency of the evidence."

This, at some length is the opinion of the justices. That opinion follows a long and heated court battle, the results of which have reverberated perhaps around the world. Meanwhile, the mother and sons remain in the Bibb County jail under a sentence of seven years.

Thurs. 6-15-48

While attorneys for the condemned trio could not be reached at the time of the ruling by the high court, it 's more than an even guess that the decision will be appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court. We are not at all familiar with the rudiments of law, but we had hoped that under the extenuating circumstances of the crime, that at least the case of the two minors would have impressed the Justices. Whether the trio will meet the same fate, if appealed to the U. S. highest court, remains to be seen.

Petition Ingram Case Rehearing

Daily World

A petition for a rehearing of the Ingram case is being submitted to the Supreme Court of Georgia by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This action follows the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court in affirming on July 13, the judgment of the trial court denying a motion for a new trial.

Sun. 7-18-48

Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-aged sons were convicted by a Georgia jury for the self-defense slaying of a white sharecropper and were sentenced to die in the electric chair on February 27 The NAACP was able to obtain a commutation of the death sentence, but the trial judge ten sentenced the Ingrams to life imprisonment. In the recent hearing before the Supreme Court of Georgia, the NAACP pointed out that the evidence introduced at the trial was not only insufficient to susitain a verdict of first-degree murder but was also completely devoid of any evidence showing malice and intent necessary to sustain such a conviction.

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Sun.

FUND CONTINUES

NEW YORK—$551.04 was contributed to the Ingram Defense Fund last week bringing the total of money donted to the National Association fo the Advancement of Colored People for the defense of the Georgia Ingram family to $39,933.72.

7-18-48

$27,498.54 of this total has been contributed by NAACP branches: $1.538 has come from individuals; churches have donted $1,621.74; and organizations have given $9,027.01. The Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in Louisville, Ky., sent a contribution of $208.50 this week and 332nd Station Medical Group in Columbus, O., donated $39.00

Mrs. Ingram Sued By Former Landlord

The Lighthouse and Informer

Columbia, S.C.

AMERICUS, Ga., (SNS)—Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, now under life sentance in connection with the self-defense slaying of John Ethron Stratford in Ellaville, has been named in a suit by C. M. Dellinger, her former landlord. The amount asked in the suit is $194.01 and represents the balance on a debt of $861.61 of which $672.60 has been paid.

Sun.

The action was filed in Justice of Peace Court, Americus, through W. A. McDonald, Justice Peace 789th District.

6-6-48

The amount represents cash advances and supplies, doctor bills and farm equipment dating back to December 21, 1946.

Mrs. Ingram is currently confined in the Bibb County Jail Macon Ga., while awaiting hearing on her plea for freedom now pending before the Georgia Supreme Court. Arguments will be heard June 14, The case is scheduled to be argued by Thurgood Marshall of the National Association of Colored People and Atty. A. T. Walden, also associated with the organization's legal defense.

Sun.

Atty. Walden will confer with Mrs. Ingram at Macon, this week. The case has been set for hearing June 8, at Americus. The Atlanta attorney will represent Mrs. Ingram at the trial.

6-6-48

The petition shows where Mrs. Ingram was credited $25 for clearing land; $187 cotton insurance payment; $91.21 for pepper returns; $82.45 for cotton and seed; $150.05 returns from hogs; $117.88 return from hogs; and labor $18.77 for a total of $672.60.

Farm supplies and cash advances were responsible for the orginal debt with the largest item being $329.32 listed as due for cash and supplies; $147.28 cash advances; doctor bill and medicine $10.00; fertilizer, $170.47; seeds $95.00; combining charges on grain, $9.00; arsenate for poisioning, 1837; feeding hogs from Nov. 5, 1947 until March 25, 1948, $20.00; and harvesting pepper and what corn that I could get harvested $12.00.

Ingram Lawyers Study Move For New Appeal

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Defense attorneys for Mrs Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons Wallace and Sammie Lee are studying the possibility of an appeal to a higher court following the action of the Georgia Supreme Court in denying a motion for a rehearing for the trio who are under life sentence.

Fri.

In commenting upon future action in the case Atty. Austin T. Walden, who along with Atty. Edward E. Dailey of New York City made the plea before the high court, the Atlanta attorney said he had not officially been notified of the court's ruling. Therefore no immediate decision will be made in connection with the case.

7-30-48

The Ingram's plea for a new trial was denied Tuesday, June 13, when the Supreme Court in a unanimous decision sustained the State in its contention that the convited trio had engaged in two separate struggles before John Ethron Stratford Schley County tenant farmer was killed in a cornfield near Ellaville, Ga.

The latest development came Wednesday, July 28, when the Supreme Court denied a rehearsing in the case. The case was argued by Atty. Walden for the Georgia Association for NAACP Branches and Atty. Dudley represented the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who are handling the Ingrams' legal strategy.

Daily World

Meanwhile, in New York City, the NAACP is studying the case anew for a possible foundation for further legal action. Such a move awaited official notification of the Court's action by Atty Walden.

Atlanta, Ga.

No case since the Scottsboro Case has attracted such international interest and concern. When the Ingrams were sentenced to death the whole nation rallied to their defense resulting in a new motion for a new trial which postponed the execution. On April 6, defense attorneys argued for a new trial before Judge William M. Harper who denied the request, but commuted the sentence to life imprisonment.

Fri.

7-30-48

MRS. ROSA LEE INGRAM

Courier

Tells Her Own Story

Pittsburgh, PA

Sat 7-10-48

13C

By MRS. ROSA LEE INGRAM

(As told to Robert M. Ratcliffe, Courier News Editor)

MACON, Ga.—"Me and the boys are doing fine, but I want all of my friends to know just how I have been treated since I have been in jail . . . I was treated so nice in Albany, Ga., and I am being treated fine here in Macon, Ga.

"I and the boys are treated better here than in any jail we have been. The jailer and his wife is so nice.

"I have been in six jails all right. I've been taken care of here and this is the best one. When I was in the Americus, Ga. jail, the white men would not let my children come up there and talk with me . . . The white people hurt my heart so bad.

Mrs. Rosa Ingram

"It made my heart hurt so bad to see how I was treated in Georgia. I have a plenty to eat every day in Macon. I had plenty of clothes given to me in Albany, Ga., but the jailer in Ellaville would not give them to me. I didn't get but three dresses. I asked him to let me carry my clothes with me and he told me that I was not going to take them.

"I have not been treated right, no way. The white men know more about the thing than me . . . I was the one the white man was talking to. Looks like I ought to know what it was about.

"Me and this man had some words. It was about giving him a date. I told him that I was not that kind of a woman. He told me that I would not live hard any more if I would do like he said, but I did not do what he wanted me to do.

"Me and my children was getting along all right until he started at me. He could not make me go his way, and he was mad. The last time he tried to make me go his way, I cursed him and then he called me everything because I would not do what he wanted me to do.

"And that is just what it is about—me not having him. I did not want him and I did not have him. I hate that it happened like it did, but I could not help it.

"This white man was hiding in my cotton field. I did not see him 'til he spoke to me. I was going back to my field to pull corn . . . but he would not let me go back. He threw his gun on me and I could not do anything but stand there. He hit me with his gun. I could not lift anything with my hand for two weeks and my head worried me for two months.

"If it had not been for my son this man would have killed me. My son begged him to let me alone, and the boy picked up the man's gun and hit him. When my son hit him, the man was still holding to me. He would not turn me loose until my son hit him again . . . and then he fell down across the road.

"Mr. Stratford did not die in a pretty good way, but he died from the gun that he hit me with. It was his own gun do it for that white man. He caused me to leave my children.

Courier, Pittsburgh, PA

"I hate it so bad, I do not know what to do. It hurts my heart so to be away from my little children.

Sat 7-10-48

"I hope that you all will make a way for me to live with my children again. They do not have a father and it looks like they don't have a mother. So help me, please, to get with my children again . . . I am afraid for them to stay down there.

"This jail here in Macon is the best I've been in. I have a good bed, but it does little good because it is hard for me to sleep.

"I didn't make a penny out of the farm. I had to make my children work out all the time so I could buy food for them to eat. I had ten children to feed . . . It was hard on me with them."

More Trouble For Mrs. Ingram

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, mother of 9 children, and now awaiting trial in the Bibb County jail at Macon, Georgia, is in trouble again. This time its her former white landlord, C. M. Dellinger, of Schley county, who seeks to collect an alleged balance of $194.01 on an original $816.61.

Mrs. Ingram, through her attorneys objects to the suit on the grounds that 'no debt exists,' and by that token is contending against further payment.

6-8-48

It appears that Mr. Dellinger, for whom Mrs. Ingram worked years ago, had either forgotten or had meant to write off the alleged account against Mrs. Ingram. But suddenly, either because Mrs. Ingram and her two sons had become so popular or because they had been receiving so much money from sympathizing friends, it appears that he got a second thought that Mrs. Ingram might be able to pay.

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Whatever may be the motives of Mr. Dellinger, it can be said that money, such as has been reported raised in behalf of the Ingrams, sounds far more fanciful than real. A great number of people all over the country have been raising funds with which to aid the Ingrams. But, as yet, no one will be able to say precisely just how much has been spent nor how much is in hands, for the members of her family.

For example, we have just learned that Mrs. Ingram's children are urgently in need, not only of clothing and food, but bed linen, blankets and spreads. Of course, stories of this sort should not be taken too seriously, since there is always someone who thinks in terms of painting a gloomy picture. What we would like most is to know that as soon as is conveniently possible that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will make it a point to coordinate all all gifts and have them channeled through one specific organization, thus setting up a Trustee group to see that the children and those associated with them will not use these funds unwisely as is so likely by those of us who have known want and privation over the years. It would also serve a useful purpose in that it would discourage the sleight-of-hand artists who stand ready to exploit human misery for their selfish ends.

6-8-48

Doomed Widow, 2 Sons Hidden

The Afro-American

Press, Lawyers Calls Irritate Ga. Sheriff

ALBANY, Ga.—Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 42, and her sons, Sammie, 14, and Wallace, 17, whose death sentences were stayed pending a new trial hearing on March 20 in Americus, Ga., have been transferred from the jail here to an undisclosed one because of too much publicity, Sheriff D. C. Campbell revealed last week.

The Ingrams were lodged in the jail here last January after their conviction in the self-defense slaying of John E. Stratford, 66-year-old white sharecropper. They were sentenced in Schley county.

Baltimore, Md.

Calls Disrupt Office

Sheriff Campbell, who asked Sheriff Edgar Devane of Schley county to come and get the Ingrams, said in explanation of the transfer of his prisoners:

"I thought they brought them down here for me to take care of them—not to advertise them to all the world.

"With all the night and day telephone calls from Northern newspaper men and magazines and visits by attorneys, the duties of my office couldn't be carried out."

Sheriff Devane wouldn't say where they were taken because "we don't want to bother another sheriff."

The Ingrams are being defended by NAACP lawyers. Edward R. Dudley, assistant special counsel, returned to New York City last Thursday after several days of consultation with lawyers in Georgia in preparation for the new trial hearing March 20.

Judge Calls Pleas 'Anarchy'

Also irked by nation-wide intrest in the case was Superior Judge W. M. Harper, who presided at the trial of the Ingrams, and who was swamped with telegrams demanding freedom for the condemned trio. He declared:

"Tde current agitation in this case is an attack on the court and when attacks are made on the court, that is anarchy. I am not going to be influenced by outside interference.

"The northern newspapers seem to have the wrong information concerning the case and it is not as they have related it. I am going to do what is right as I always have tried to do."

PICKETS WIN RELIEF FOR INGRAM MOTHER

The Worker

Sun 9-26-48

PHILADELPHIA.—Mrs. Amy Hunt, mother of Rosa Lee Ingram, has been restored to her relief status. The victory followed a campaign led by the Civil Rights Congress, which culminated in a picket line demonstration Monday, Sept. 13, at the Public Assistance office. Officials conferred with CRC leaders, and later in the week Mrs. Hunt received her first relief check since last June.

Mrs. Hunt was taken off relief following her activity in the campaign to free her daughter and two grandsons now serving a life sentence in Georgia for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer who attacked Mrs. Ingram.

Mrs. Ingram Married At Age of 15; Began Farm Work When 8

The Courier

Sat 3-27-48

Pittsburgh Pa

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 40-year-old widow, Ellaville, Ga., has been sentenced to die for the November slaying of John Stratford, 66-year-old white farmer. Scheduled to die with her are two of her teen-age sons. Because of the national interest in the case, The Pittsburgh Courier sent its news editor, Robert M. Ratcliffe, to Albany, Ga., to get Mrs. Ingram's life story. This is the second installment.

(As told to Robert M. Ratcliffe, Courier News Editor)

ALBANY, Ga.—"I was in my teens when I fell in love with Jackson Ingram . . . I guess I just loved him better than any of the other men who liked me."

The Life Story of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram

For the first time during my interview with Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, a smile appeared on her face. She was shy, but recalling memories of her early life seemed to please her.

"I was 15 years old, or about 15, when I married Jackson. I don't know how old he was . . . he was an older man than me. He was 64 when he died.

"I first met Jackson at church. That was the first time I had some talk with him. I courted other boys a little, but I wasn't allowed to go around with them much."

Sat 3-27-48

SMILES AGAIN

Mrs. Ingram twisted her handkerchief around her fingers and smiled again.

"We waited about a year or two before we got married. We got married on a Thursday and went to live on the Gatewood farm (near Ellaville) where Jackson worked.

"Me and him loved each other . . . we had been married one year before I had my first child.

"I owned children pretty fast after that."

Mrs. Ingram smoothed her dress and stared at the iron bars that held her a prisoner in the Dougherty **County Jail.**

"I am the mother of fourteen children," she volunteered. "Two of them died at childbirth . . . in having children, I was well took care of.

"None of my children was born in a hospital, and I never had any trouble with any of them until the last two. Midwives birthed all my children, but I had to go to the hospital for treatment before the last two was born. My last two was Frankie Mae and Robert Lee."

GOOD HUSBAND

Rosa Lee Ingram chewed on a wad of gum. "It wasn't hard for me to take care of all my children," she said. "My husband was a good worker, and he kept plenty of food and clothes for us.

"Jackson died last Aug. 5. I am a member of the church, but he wasn't. He used to go to services sometimes. He got all right before he died, though, because he told me he was going home to rest . . . so I reckon he knowed what he was doing.

"He had a stroke, then a heart attack. And he had stomach trouble, too.

"Everybody gave my husband a good recommendation. He sure was a good man . . . everybody, colored and white, thought well of him. They told me I never would get another man like him—after he died. We never gave each other any trouble. We got along all right until death separated us."

TELLS OF CHILDHOOD

About her childhood, Mrs. Ingram said:

"I was born in Sumpter County (Ga.) forty years ago, about ten miles from Americus, Ga. I was born on the Tommy Hooks place. My mother and father were Amie Floyd and Tom Floyd. Of course, my father is dead, but my mother is still living. She is Mrs. Hunt, now. She is living somewhere in Philadelphia.

"I don't know how old my mother is. She had eight children—six boys and two girls.

LITTLE SCHOOLING

"I went to school a little, but not much. I went for three or four years to the Oak Grove School . . . Daddy didn't have anybody to help him on the farm, so me and my oldest sister had to help him. The boys wasn't old enough at that time.

"I've been working on farms ever since I was about eight years old."

Sat 3-27-48

The life story of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram will be continued next week.

WASHINGTON—"The United Women's and Youth Organizations to Save Mrs. Ingram" last Thursday carried their plea for the doomed widow and her two sons to Capitol Hill. Representatives from Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York made the plea.

Mrs. Ingram's Mother, Now Living in Philly, Appeals to Americans

The Courier

Sat 3-13-48

Pittsburgh Pa

PHILADELPHIA—Grief sown in the Georgia wasteland bore bitter fruit in Philadelphia last week, where the aging mother of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, doomed Georgia widow, cried out for the sparing of her daughter's life.

Before an audience of reporters and sympathetic onlookers in the office of the local NAACP, Mrs. Amy Hunt repeated the story of the injustice of the Southern white jury which sentenced her daughter to death for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer.

Sat 3-13-48

Slowly and with broken voice the mother, who has lived in Philadelphia six years, recounted the beating of her 40-year-old daughter by the white farmer in a dispute over a mule crossing his land and how her daughter's two sons, as they saw their mother abused, rushed to her defense in which the white farmer was killed by two blows.

SELF-DEFENSE

"It was self-defense against an armed man. Self-defense by a mother of fourteen children," she said. And though no tears flowed from her eyes, her voice was hoarse.

That was the story told to the all-white Schley County jury which listened calmly, attentively, then sentenced Mrs. Ingram and her two sons, Wallace, 16, and Sammie Lee, 14, to die in the electric chair.

It was the story which prompted Georgia Negro organizations to hold mass meetings, rallies, and make appeals from church pulpits to collect more than $500 to be used in the Ingrams' defense.

It was the story which prompted civic and racial organizations throughout the country to pour mail and telegrams into the offices of Georgia's Governor, of President Truman and of Attorney General Tom Clark . . .

It was the story which prompted a group of Philadelphians to form the "Ingram Defense Committee."

Sat 3-13-48

Magistrate Joseph Rainey, president of the local branch, NAACP, is president of the committee; Antonio Lake is secretary, and Morris Shafritz, local attorney, is treasurer.

COMMITTEE ACTIVE

Mrs. Hunt, who lives at 1841 N. Mervine Street, and her sister, Mrs. Retha Pitts, 1902 N. Eleventh Street, joined the NAACP in urging that the week-end of March 20-21 be set aside as "Save the Ingram Family" week-end. It was asked that church services make note of the plight of the helpless sharecropper family, that telegrams be sent to President Truman, Governor Thompson and Attorney General Tom Clark, and that donations be sent to Morris Shafritz, treasurer of the committee, at 1412 Fox Building, Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Sat 3-13-48

"We do not intend this as a local fight, Magistrate Rainey said. "The committee will operate throughout the country."

Pastors Not Consulted On Offer to Aid Negroes

Courier Journal

By HARRY BOLSER

Staff Correspondent, The Courier-Journal.

Louisville Kentucky

Hopkinsville, Ky., Dec. 22.—The Rev. James Logan Delk, pastor of the Church of God in Christ here, did not consult the Hopkinsville Ministerial Association before seeking parole of a Negro woman and her two sons from a Georgia prison. Fri 12-24-48

"We know nothing about Mr Delk's plea except what we have read in the newspapers," Dr. William Peyton Thurman, President of the association, said tonight.

The ministerial association is composed of white Protestant churches of Hopkinsville. Delk attended meetings of the association several years ago, but is not now a member, according to Gilmer Pursley, secretary.

Delk still was in Atlanta today in behalf of Rosa Lee Ingram. Negro, and her two teen-aged sons. They are serving life sentences for the murder of 66-year-old John E. Stafford near Americus, Ga.

Promised a Farm

Fri 12-24-48

The Hopkinsville minister yesterday told the Georgia Pardon and Parole Board conviction of the trio was "a great miscarriage of justice."

Delk told the board Negro and white churches here will provide a 170-acre farm free for the Ingrams for five years if they are paroled the Associated Press reported.

By telephone tonight from At-nta Delk denied he stated vhite" churches in Hopkinsville ll help provide the farm "I id five Baptist and two Meth-ist Churches, all colored, in Hopkinsville would help provide the farm."

Delk said he did not seek the aid of the Hopkinsville Ministerial Association.

Questioned as to location of the 170-acre farm he proposes to provide the Ingrams, Delk said he didn't know its exact location, but it's about eight miles from Hopkinsville and is owned by James G. Durham, Hopkinsville night police chief.

"That's news to me," said Durham tonight. "I haven't talked with Delk or anyone else about the sale of my farm. It's not for sale to Delk."

Housed In a Room.

Fri 12-24-48

Delk's church is housed in a room of a frame residence at 118 E. First. Delk, his wife, a native of Hopkinsville, and their 11-year-old daughter, live there.

Delk, according to Mrs. Delk, who is a Baptist, often preaches to congregations composed of white and Negro persons. His church has about 50 white members, Mrs. Delk said.

The Hopkinsville minister said he also holds the title of "evangelist and national social worker" in the National Church of God in Christ, which has headquarters in Memphis and is headed by a Negro bishop.

ALBANY, GA.—Death stalked the dingy jail cell of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram here last week . . . The 40-year-old widow and mother of fourteen children almost died of a heart attack in the Dougherty County jail, where she and two of her sons are under death sentence for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer in Ellaville on Nov. 4.

Sheriff Cull Campbell and Deputy Sheriff Lamar Stewart, upon learning of the woman's condition, called Dr. Edward D. Hamilton, dentist and president of the Albany branch of the NAACP, and asked him to get the best heart specialist in town to attend the prisoner.

Dr. Edward S. Armstrong, white, of Albany, was rushed to the prison where Mrs. Ingram and her sons, Wallace, 16, and Sammie Lee, 14, are "courtesy prisoners."

Sat 3-13-48

Mrs. Ingram was much improved on the week-end, but she still complained of pains "over my heart."

Pittsburgh Pa.

Meanwhile Atty. A. T. Walden of the NAACP and Atty. Samuel Hawkins Dykes, white, of Americus, visited Mrs. Ingram Friday and mapped plans for the motion for a new trial which is to be heard March 20 by trial judge, William H. Harper, in his chambers in the Sumpter County Courthouse, Americus.

Attorney Walden said he expected Judge Harper to grant Mrs. Ingram and her sons a new trial.

Brought to trial last January in a special session of court after indictments had been returned by a hastily assembled grand jury, the Ingrams were tried and convicted in Schley Superior Court, Ellaville. They were sentenced to die Feb. 27 for the slaying of John Ethron Stratford, 66-year-old white sharecropper. Motion for a new trial was first set for Feb. 21, then changed to March 6, and finally to March 20.

Attorney Walden was not associated with the white lawyer at the trial. He entered the case after Americans throughout the country flooded Georgia officials with telephone calls, wires and letters demanding that the Ingrams be saved from the electric chair.

Legal students are of the opinion that the trial last January was bungled. Mrs. Ingram, if given the chance to tell her side of the story, did not know how to present it to the jury. Excited and in a state of fear during the trial, she failed to convince the court of the real reason for the slaying.

In a statement to The Courier last week, she said a younger son, James, 12, was forced by investigating officers to "tell a lie."

Sat 3-13-48

"They threatened to kill him if he didn't say a hammer and hoe found in my home were used in the fatal beating of Mr. Stratford," Mrs. Ingram said.

Assisting Attorney Dykes during the trial were Judge Troy G. Morrow, Ellaville City Court Judge, and present Leesburg Solicitor of City Court, J. C. Rainey.

Come next March 20, Attorney Walden, in his argument on a motion for a new trial, will say that:

1. **The evidence presented in the case was not sufficient to support the conviction.**
2. **The verdict and sentence were contrary to the law.**
3. **The verdict and sentence were strongly and decidedly against the evidence.**

If the Ingrams are granted a new trial, the case will be returned to Schley Superior Court, but an effort will be made, Attorney Walden said, to have it taken to another county seat.

In case the Ingrams are denied a new trial, the case will be carried to the Georgia State Supreme Court. If the State Court should uphold the low court's decision, Attorney Walden said he would go to the United States Supreme Court if he "finds sufficient Federal questions" in the case.

Mrs. Ingram's chief concern is her family. "I've grieved and cried so much about my poor little babies," she said.

Sat

The two boys in jail with Mrs. Ingram have seen her only three times since they have been in prison. She has seen none of her smaller children. Two of her fourteen children died at child birth.

The younger Ingrams are now with Samuel J. Hill, a prosperous farmer who lives near Lesley, Ga. He was Mrs. Ingram's late husband's first cousin. The oldest Ingram girl, Mrs. Geneva Rushen, is caring for the youngsters.

Four of the Ingram children are attending Nunn Industrial School. Those in school are Walter Lee, 6; Dolly Mae, 7; Marcella, 9, and James Frank, 11.

Four tots, and two Rushen children round out the list.

Mrs. Ingrams' husband, Jackson, died last August. He was 64.

Mrs. Ingram is visited at least twice a week by some of the women of Albany. They gather in the cell and sing and pray with her.

"Everybody is nice to me here," she said.

Cash Pours in for Ingrams' Defense

The Courier

Sat 3-13-48

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Thousands of dollars for the defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, doomed Georgia widow, and her two sons, have poured into the offices of The Pittsburgh Courier, Atty. A. T. Walden in Atlanta, the national office of the NAACP in New York City, Georgia NAACP branches, and even to Mrs. Ingram herself in the jail at Albany, Ga.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Sparked by the nation-wide appeal of The Courier, generous donations have been made since the initial release of the story of the trio's conviction, up to now. The total amount raised has not been disclosed yet.

$2,300 RAISED IN GA.

However, it is known that $1,300 was collected in Americus and Ellaville, Ga.; $500 was raised at a mass meeting of the Georgia Defense Committee in Atlanta, and $500 more donated to the Albany (Ga.) NAACP branch.

In the office of Colonel Walden in Atlanta are heaping stacks of letters and telegrams containing money for the Ingrams. That has apparently become the theme song of the Nation: "Money for the Ingrams!" Colonel Walden stated that he had not counted up the money received at his office.

SOLDIERS GIVE $222

Among the letters received last week by The Courier was one containing $222 raised by members of the 142nd Quartermaster Battalion at Camp Campbell, Ky., and forwarded by Chaplain Theodore R. Daniels. The letter reads as follows:

Sat 3-13-48

> **The men of Camp Campbell, Ky., whom I serve as chaplain, have expressed in a concrete manner their desire to assist the Ingram family of Georgia. Below is listed each organization and the amount contributed:**

17 QM Salvage Collecting Co.	$66
505th QM Salvage Repair Co.	65
2118th, 4th Platoon, ASU	44
74th Engineer Combat Bat. ..	24
821st QM Fumigation and Bath Company	18
Other Contributions	5
Total	222

> **We pray that this humble contribution will help accomplish a worthy and deserving purpose.**
>
> **(Signed) Theodore R. Daniels, Chaplain, and men of the above organizations.**

PRINCETON STUDENTS GIVE

Students at Princeton University, Princeton, N. J., gave $50 for the Ingrams after John H. Bunzel, president of the Princeton Liberal Union, had made an appeal in their behalf at a union meeting.

The NAACP in New York sent out a general appeal to 1,600 branches throughout the Nation, asking that contributions for the Ingram defense fund be sent to Allan K. Chalmers, treasurer of the NAACP, at the New York office.

NAACP local branches are holding their collections in their own treasuries, to expend according to the levy made upon them when the fees are to be paid. The remainder, it is said, would be used for other defense funds where needed.

WANT HOME

Meanwhile The Pittsburgh Courier, which has continually sparked the effort to fully and accurately publicize the plight of the Ingram family of mother and twelve children, expressed keen interest in having all Ingram defense funds not actually expended in the case, turned over to the Ingram family for use and to build the home Mrs. Ingram had planned on their property near Americus, Ga.

It was learned that the unexpended portion of these funds might be applied to some other use, but The Courier has pointed out several times that Mrs. Ingram's family consists of ten other children in addition to Wallace and Sammie Lee, and they range in ages from seventeen months to an older daughter in her late teens.

The Courier pointed out, further, that Mrs. Ingram was working as a sharecropper for the purpose of getting enough money to build a house on the property the family owns near Americus, and that any leftover funds would serve a worth while purpose if applied to the erection of a home.

Citizens in Albany, Ga., where the Ingrams are jailed, bring food to the jail for them, and clothing sufficient for five years' needs has been received at the home of farmer Sam Hill near Americus, where the children are now living.

'I Put My Trust in God,' Mrs. Ingram Writes Mother

The Courier

Sat 4-24-48

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE, Courier News Editor

(First Installment of a New Series)

Pittsburgh Pa

PHILADELPHIA — "I felt real lifted when I read in The Pittsburgh Courier that my daughter, Rosa Lee, and her two sons had been saved from the electric chair."

Mrs. Amy Hunt was talking. We were sitting in the kitchen of her two-room, third floor apartment.

"I still believe they will be freed . . . if not soon. I been praying for her myself. God is above the devil. What Rosa Lee and her boys did was in self-defense."

Mrs. Hunt, 60 years old, and twice a widow, sat on the side of a day bed and pulled at her hair which she had just washed. "Rosa Lee was my second child. She was always a very good kid. I reared my children with nice manners . . . all of them."

Mrs. Hunt is the mother of twelve children, all by her first husband, Tom Floyd.

"Rosa Lee writes me from the jail," Mrs. Hunt said as she rambled through a pile of papers and found me this letter:

this is from your child Rosa Lee ingram.

Sat 4-24-48

Ellaville Ga
Feb 26 1948

My dear

Mother I was so glad to here from you I ant finging so well this moring I have ben sick I am some better now I hope this letter will find you well Mother send up some good prays to the Lord for me I pray day and night I now that the Lord will and prays so I put my trust in God he is able and I now that he will help me what God says in the Bible and i believe every word he says Because he knows all things and can not make a mistake I am having a plenty to eat Every Body is helping pore me But mother I just think about my little children so bad untell I can not help from cry I hope that I will not go crazy I got Jesus on my mine all the time so that all mother this time Rite me and let me here from you

to my mother
Mrs. Amy hunt
I am yet in Jail

"I had a heap of trouble this year," Mrs. Hunt told me. "First, my granddaughter, Rubie Del Wilson, who lives with me, had meningitis and had to go to the hospital . . . and then Rosa Lee was put in jail. Yes, I had a heap of trouble."

Mrs. Hunt stared out of her kitchen window. "But, you know I'm doing all I can to help Rosa Lee and her boys. I've been to New York twice and to Washington once where I made speeches and helped raised money to fight the case.

Sat 4-24-48

"The lawyers have been here to talk to me and they tell me that I must do all I can to help my daughter. And I'm really doing my best."

Mrs. Hunt smiled. "My neighbors are just beginning to realize who I am," she said. "When I go out on the street now, they say: 'You're the mother of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, aren't you? We saw your picture in the paper'."

Mrs. Hunt has been living here about six years and is a recipient of public assistance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MRS. AMY HUNT

High Court Hears Ingram Appeal

Afro-American

Ga. Family Under Life Terms Seek New Trial

Sat.

Baltimore Md.

ATLANTA, Ga. — The Georgia Supreme Court, Monday, heard arguments for a new trial hearing for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, under life term conviction in the slaying, last November, of John Ed Stratford, white sharecropper.

6-14-48

The Ingrams were represented by NAACP counsel and Edqard R. Dudley; while the State was represented by Sol. Gen. A. L. Forrester, Leesburg official.

Defense counsel asked a new trial and an unbiased jury in the case in which they contended the slaying was clearly in self-defense.

Property Invasion Charged

Stratford had entered the InGram's field, armed with a rifle, at the height of a dispute over the Ingrams' farm cattle grazing on his portion of the shared farm.

Decision of the high court may come in three weeks, if not then, three more weeks must elapse before a ruling is announced.
fivhooc

Mother, Two Sons Sentenced to Die

The Courier

Sat 2-7-48

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

Pittsburgh Pa

ELLAVILLE, Ga.—Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons were sentenced to the electric chair last week for a murder they maintain was committed to preserve their property and protect their lives. They are scheduled to die Feb. 27.

The mother, 45, became involved in a disagreement with a white farmer. Her sons sought to aid her. The white man was killed. The court ruled that the three must pay with their lives.

After an all-white jury found the family group guilty of murder in the Nov. 4, 1947, slaying of the farmer, Judge W. M. Harper sentenced Mrs. Ingram and Wallace 17, and Sammie Lee, 14, to die by electrocution at Reidsville, Feb. 27. Another son, Charlie, 18, was acquitted on the murder charge. Jackson Ingram, a fourth son, was sentenced to serve twelve months in prison on a charge that he took the farmer's purse containing $133 from his pocket. The purse was dug up from behind a barn at the home of the Ingrams, the State charged.

The jury disbelieved the testimony of the Ingrams that John Ed Stratford, the farmer, had advanced on the mother with a rifle and engaged in a fight with her, whereupon the sons intervened and death blows, self-defense blows, resulted.

According to testimony at the trial, Stratford had found mules and hogs belonging to the Ingram family in his corn field and got out his .32 calibre rifle to shoot them.

With his gun in hand, Stratford met Mrs. Ingram on the road, halfway between his house and the Ingram dwelling. A tussle ensued.

Sheriff Devane admitted that the sons intervened when they saw their mother in danger of being killed. Testimony revealed that the farmer was subdued after he was struck a heavy blow across the head by one of the sons.

Pleads For Negroes

Birmingham News

Birmingham Ala

ATLANTA, Dec. 22—(AP)—A white minister said yesterday a Negro and her two teen-aged sons convicted of murdering a white farmer were victims of a great miscarriage of justice. He asked that they be paroled.

The nation, the minister told Georgia's pardon and parole board, is "disgusted" with treatment given Rosa Lee Ingram and her sons Sammy, 14, and Walton, 16.

The convictions were result of "circumstances," said the Rev. James Logal Delk, of the Church of God in Hopkinsville, Ky.

Wed 12-22-48

The Negroes are serving life for the slaying of Tenant Farmer John E. Strafford, 66, in an argument over pasturing their mule in the farmer's cornfield.

The minister said Negro and white churchess in Hopkinsville will provide a 170-acre farm free for five years if Rosa Lee and her sons are paroled. After five years, the Negroes would pay rent on the farm.

"It has been whispered all over America that this woman and her boys are innocent," Kentuckian said. "They did only what you or I, a minister, would have done. The boys came to the rescue of their mother when someone was beating her up."

Wed 12-22-48

Chairman Ed Everett noted that the board usually does not interfere in a life case until seven years are served.

Californians In Ingram Rally

LOS ANGEIES—(ANP)—Over 600 people who assembled at Phillips Temple CME church Sunday heard actress Lena Horne, the Rev. J. J. Hicks and Al Caplan voice the condemnation and protest of an indignant nation over the death sentence imposed on Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 45, and her teen age sons, Wallace and Sammie.

The Lighthouse

The rally held under the auspices of the Los Angeles Negro congress went on record demanding of President Truman and Gov. Melvin Thompson of Georgia the unconditional release and safety of Mrs. Ingram and her sons. The Ingrams were convicted for the self-defense slaying of John Stratford, white farmer.

Sat 4-4-48

Other features of the "Save the Ingram Family Drive' being conducted at the Negro congress from March 19 to 29, included street demonstrations, and circulation of post cards by progressive groups throughout Los Angeles.

Columbia S.C.

Speaking to an enthusiastic audience, Miss Horne pointed out that any normal sons would rush to the defense of their mother when she was threatened. She also called upon the Negro people to ally themselves with all people and groups willing to help fight for the freedom of the Ingrams.

Rev. Hicks of St. John Methodist church, who lived in Georgia, painted a vivid picture of the terrorism to which Negroes are subjected. "The church must begin to play its role in fighting for the civil rights of all groups and persons, as well as carrying on its struggle for Christianity," Rev. Hicks declared.

Sat 4-4-48

Al Caplan, Warehouse and Longshoremen union, CIO, urged white Americans to join ranks with the Negro people in their fight for liberation.

Georgia Cops Foul Chicagoan's Talk With Governor

Black Dispatch

Sat 4-3-48

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Charles Alexander, a representative of the Chicago Civil Rights congress who was sent to Americus, Ga., to attend a hearing on a new trial for the Ingram family, was forced to miss his appointment with Gov. Thompson last week because he was waylaid enroute to Atlanta by police officers.

Oklahoma City Okla

According to Mr. Alexander, he boarded a bus bound for Atlanta, to keep his appointment with the governor. Near Atlanta, he was removed from the bus by police, handcuffed and tied to a post near a white school for four hours. He was pointed out to students of the school as a "nigger Yankee."

He was finally taken to jail, on a charge of disorderly conduct. In court, he was accused of having used profanity aboard the bus, was fined $17 and the rest of the money he had wired him was taken away. Immediately upon his release, he returned to Chicago.

Sat 4-3-48

Alexander said that evidently his every move had geen closely watched prior to the incident. The real reason for his arrest was because a "nigger Yankee can get an appointment with the governor, while the mayor couldn't."

Alexander reported that he has visited Mrs. Ingram in the Americus jail and that she stated she would rather be moved to Atlanta because she did not feel safe and could not see her children in jail. He also visited the law firm of Dykes and Dykes, which is representing the Ingrams. He described them as being friendly and interested, but feeling that they could do better if they had associate counsel with training in criminal law. The Dykes are not criminal lawyers.

Lena Horne Heads Mass Meeting To Save Ingram Three

Black Dispatch

LOS ANGELES — (ANP) — Over 600 people who assembled at Phillips Temple CME church Sunday heard actress Lena Horne, the Rev. J. J. Hicks and Al Caplan voice the condemnation and protest of an indignant nation over the death sentence imposed on Mrs. Rose Lee Ingram, 45, and her teen age sons, Wallace and Sammie.

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Demands $194.01

Pittsburgh Courier

Rosa Ingram Sued by Her Ex-Landlord

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sat. 6-12-48

(Special to The Courier)

AMERICUS, Ga.—Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, now under life sentence for the self-defense slaying of an Ellaville white sharecropper, last week was named in a suit filed by C. M. Dellinger, her former landlord.

Sat. 6-12-48

The suit asked for $194.01, representing a balance on a debt of $866.61 on alleged cash advances supplies, doctor bills and farm equipment dating back to Dec. 21, 1946.

ATLANTA, Ga.—Justices of Georgia's State Supreme Court will begin hearings Monday in the appeal of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram for a new trial for herself and two of her sons now under life sentences for the slaying of a white sharecropper in Nov., 1947. Atty. A. T. Walden of this city will present the Ingram appeal.

Action was filed in Justice of Peace Court, Americus, through W. A. McDonald, justice of the peace of the Georgia 789th District. The case was due to be heard at Americus on June 8.

Mrs. Ingram, currently confined in the Bibb County Jail at Macon, is represented by Atty. A. T. Walden.

According to the petition, Mrs. Ingram was credited $25 for clearing land; $187 cotton insurance payment; $91.21 for pepper returns; $82.45 for cotton and seed; $150.05 returns from hogs; $117.88 returns from hogs, and labor valued at $18.77.

Farm supplies and cash advances were responsible for the original debt. The largest item was $329.32, listed as due for cash and supplies; $147.28 cash advances; doctor bill and medicine, $10; fertilizer, $170.47; seeds, $85; combining charges on grain, $9; arsenate for poisoning, $18.37; feeding hogs from Nov. 5, 1947, until March 25, 1948, $20, and harvesting pepper and corn, $12.

Sat 6-12-48

Sheriff Twice Refuses Permit For Prayer

The Defender

13C

Cleric Represented Full Denomination Six Other Churches

Sat 4-17-48

BY JOHN LE FLORE

AMERICUS, Ga.—Georgia justice was approaching its extremes again last week when Dr. James Logan Delk a Kentucky minister and church social worker was twice denied permission to see either Mrs. Rosa Ingram, or her two teen age sons who are facing the electric chair on a murder conviction.

Chicago Ill

Held in solitary confinement while they await the ruling of Judge William M. Harper on their appeal for a new trial, the Ingram's have been denied the right to have visitors who might be able to help in their defense.

Dr. Delk not only was not permitted to see Mrs. Ingram, 40, or her boys, Sammie Lee, 14, and Wallace, 16, but was rebuked sharply by Sheriff J. E. Devane of Schley County for his interest in the case. He had made a special trip from Hopkinsville, Ky., to Americus to interview the family.

The Ingrams were convicted in January for the slaying, last fall, of John E. Stratford, a neighboring sharecrop farmer at Ellaville, Ga., last November. The Ingram defense was that Stratford attacked the mother and her sons came to her defense.

He was shot with his own gun, and beaten with a hoe and a hammer. "Confessions" were extracted from Mrs. Ingram and two of her boys. Two others who did not sign the confessions written for them, escaped the death sentence. One was aquitted, and the other drew a short term for robbery.

Sat 4-17-48

Dr. Delk, who represents a million members of the Church of God In Christ, also was acting on behalf of five white Baptist Churches and a Methodist Church on his mission here.

13C

His rebuff at Sumter County jail was the first time in 45 years in the ministry that he had been denied the right to visit a jali and pray with prisoners, Dr. Delk said. Shriff DeVane declared: "I don't see what good it would do to let the preacher see them. If I let him in I would have to let lots of other people in." He said he gave them prayers and scriptures he received through the mail and "that should be enough of religion."

Dr. Delk said he would appeal to President Truman who has been a personal friend for 18 years, for permission to see the Ingrams.

Protests Hit Verdict In Farm Killing

The Defender

ELLAVILLE, Ga.-A wave of protests, including demands for a new trial were sweeping down on Georgia this week over the sentencing of a 45 year old mother and two of her teen-age sons to be electrocuted February 27.

Chicago Ill

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her sons, Wallace, 17, and Tommie Lee, who will be 15 on his next birthday, were convicted of clubbing to death John Stratford, a white farmer, last November 4. Execution is scheduled at the state prison at Reidsville.

Sat 2-7-48

Basis of the protests were the secrecy that surrounded the case, both when the Ingram family was in custody, and during the trial. A third son, 18, was freed.

J. B. Dorsey, Unsung Hero of Ingram Case

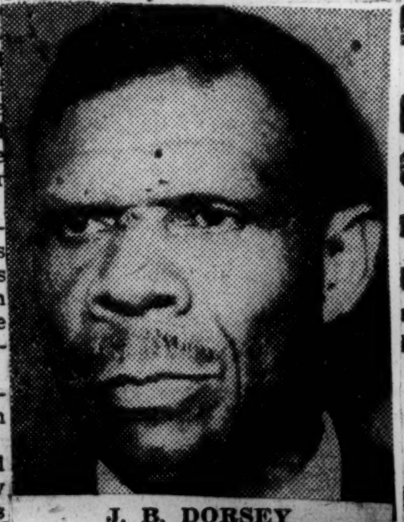
The Courier

13C

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 5-29-48

The strong, steady hand behind the glare of the Ingram drama belongs to J. B. Dorsey, a mechanic, who is president of the Americus (Ga.) Branch of the NAACP.

J. B. Dorsey.



J. B. DORSEY

Sparkplug of all civic movements in Americus, Mr. Dorsey took up the cudgel for the Ingrams early in the case, demanded and got the attention and active participation of the NAACP in the fight. It was he, too, who prodded the court-appointed lawyer for the Ingrams to continue their fight for freedom.

Sat. 5-29-48

Through the efforts of Mr. Dorsey, an Ingram welfare fund has been set up by the Americus NAACP. The fund now has $160 in its treasury and members of the NAACP provide the Ingram children with "spending money."

Mr. Dorsey's group will supervise the building of a five-room house for the Ingram family.

For a courage that has remained immovable in the face of ugly Dixie habits, The Courier salutes

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Ga. NAACP Report Ingrams Well Cared For

13C

Daily World

AMERICUS, Ga. — J. B. Dorsey, president of the Americus, Georgia branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, gave assurance this week that the family of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram is being adequately cared for by the NAACP. Mrs. Ingram and her two teen-age sons are now under sentence of life imprisonment following their conviction by an all-white jury in the self-defense slaying of John E. Stratford, a white neighbor.

Atlanta Ga

Jun 11-14-48

In a letter to Roy Wilkins, N. A. A. C. P. assistant secretary, Mr. Dorsey stated that Mrs. Geneva Rushin, oldest Ingram daughter, is being supplied regularly with funds for the family's needs, and that the Americus branch of the N. A. A. C. P. has been paying family medical expenses and an average weekly grocery bill of $20. In addition, he said, three or four hundred parcels of clothing for the Ingrams had been received. Also a welfare committee, assigned to look after the Ingram children, reports that they are all in good health.

The National NAACP Office announced this week that contributions to the Ingram Defense Fund now total $44,824.41, of which $30,383.02 has been contributed by N. A. A. C. P. branches, $1,700.38 by individuals, $1,888.98 by churches, and $10,852.03 by other organizations.

13- (20)

APPEAL MADE FOR FUNDS TO DEFEND MOTHER AND SONS

New York, N. Y., March 4--An urgent appeal for funds for the legal defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, widowed mother of 12 children, and her two young sons, now under sentence of death in Americus, Ga., went out this week to the 1600 branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and to other friends of the Association. N.AACP Fri. 3-5-48

Calling the Ingram case "one of the most shocking miscarriages of justice in the 39 years the NAACP has existed," Walter White, secretary, urged the branches to arrange mass meetings and send speakers to churches, trade unions and other organizations in a concerted campaign to raise funds for the Ingrams and other legal defense work of the Association. N.Y. N.Y.

The death sentences imposed on Mrs. Ingram, an impoverished sharecropper, and her sons originated in an argument last November with a neighboring white farmer, John Ed Stratford. Mrs. Ingram's pigs had rooted under the fence dividing Stratford's land from the farm on which she worked. Armed with a rifle, Stratford set out to shoot the animals. He encountered Mrs. Ingram and struck her with the butt of the firearm, inflicting a deep and bloody wound. She was struggling with him to prevent him from shooting her when two of her sons, Sammie Lee, 14, and Wallace, 17, rushed to her aid. Sammie Lee used the hammer with which he was repairing the fence to strike the white assailant and save his mother's life. The blow was fatal.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons were arrested and held without bail or trial for three months. In a one-day trial on February 3, with only court-appointed counsel to defend them, the mother and two sons were convicted and sentenced to death.

MRS. INGRAM GRIEVES FOR HER CHILDREN

Daily Worker

From her Macon, Ga., jail cell Mrs. Rosa Ingram sent a letter of thanks to the American Communications Association office staff for its Mother's Day greeting card. Dated May 14, Mrs. Ingram's letter describes her grief at being separated from her little children. She thanked all the people who are helping her win freedom.

There is "but one thing I worry and grieve about, my little children," wrote Mrs. Ingram. "I just sit down and study and cry sometime just for my little kids. It hurts me to my heart to be away from my children. New York, N.Y.

"I didn't think I would be living to see this day, but the Lord has made a way for me and my children to get along. I hear from my Lillie every week. They are fine they tell me. I believe if I don't get out I will go crazy. I study so hard sometimes I do not know what to do. 5-26-48 Wed.

"I do thank all the people for what they are doing for me and the children to get along. I just want to go home to them. I hope that I can go home one day to my little kids and I will rest then.

"May God bless you all." New York, N.Y. Wed. Daily Worker

The letter ends with a note "To My Friends." Again Mrs. Ingram thanks the "people so many times for their goodness and kindness to me and my children." 5-26-48

The Ingram Case Decision

The Constitution

In South Georgia a Negro woman and two sons, one 14 years old, have had a death sentence commuted to life imprisonment.

This is the Ingram case over which the Communists and radicals raised such a furor. They were convicted of killing a white man whose farm adjoined their land, who came with loaded gun to argue about livestock from their place running on his. There were no witnesses save the defendants, who said they acted in self defense. Atlanta, Ga. Sat 4-10-48

The jury's only error, as we see it, was in imposing a death sentence on a 14-year-old boy who joined in a fight on the side of his mother. No state should sentence children of that age to hanging or the chair. When any state does, it inevitably lays itself open to attack and to an unsympathetic consideration of its decisions. Sat 4-10-48

Certainly a man was murdered.

We are glad the court has disposed of the case as it has. The Constitution

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Ask New Trial For Ingrams

The Constitution

The State Supreme Court today was considering a plea to grant Rosa Lee Ingram and her two 'teen-aged sons, sentenced to life imprisonment for murder, a new trial.

The Negro woman and her boys were convicted of killing a tenant farmer, John E. Stratford, 66, last Nov. 4 in an argument over the pasturing of the Ingram's cow on the farmer's field. Atlanta, Ga.

Originally the three were sentenced to death, but Southwestern Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper commuted the penalty to life imprisonment. Tues. 6-15-48

The request for a new trial was made by A. T. Walden, Atlanta attorney, who argued that the verdict was contrary to the evidence.

13c
(Ga.)

APPEAL MADE FOR FUNDS TO DEFEND MOTHER AND SONS

New York, N. Y., March 4--An urgent appeal for funds for the legal defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, widowed mother of 12 children, and her two young sons, now under sentence of death in Americus, Ga., went out this week to the 1600 branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and to other friends of the Association. N.AACP Fri. 3-5-48

Calling the Ingram case "one of the most shocking miscarriages of justice in the 39 years the NAACP has existed," Walter White, secretary, urged the branches to arrange mass meetings and send speakers to churches, trade unions and other organizations in a concerted campaign to raise funds for the Ingrams and other legal defense work of the Association. N.Y., N.Y.

The death sentences imposed on Mrs. Ingram, an impoverished sharecropper, and her sons originated in an argument last November with a neighboring white farmer, John Ed Stratford. Mrs.Ingram's pigs had rooted under the fence dividing Stratford's land from the farm on which she worked. Armed with a rifle, Stratford set out to shoot the animals. He encountered Mrs. Ingram and struck her with the butt of the firearm, inflicting a deep and bloody wound. She was struggling with him to prevent him from shooting her when two of her sons, Sammie Lee, 14, and Wallace, 17, rushed to her aid. Sammie Lee used the hammer with which he was repairing the fence to strike the white assailant and save his mother's life. The blow was fatal.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons were arrested and held without bail or trial for three months. In a one-day trial on February 3, with only court-appointed counsel to defend them, the mother and two sons were convicted and sentenced to death.

MRS. INGRAM GRIEVES FOR HER CHILDREN

Daily Worker

From her Macon, Ga., jail cell Mrs. Rosa Ingram sent a letter of thanks to the American Communications Association office staff for its Mother's Day greeting card. Dated May 14, Mrs. Ingram's letter describes her grief at being separated from her little children. She thanked all the people who are helping her win freedom.

There is "but one thing I worry and grieve about, my little children," wrote Mrs. Ingram. "I just sit down and study and cry sometime just for my little kids. It hurts me to my heart to be away from my children. New York, N.Y.

"I didn't think I would be living to see this day, but the Lord has made a way for me and my children to get along. I hear from my Lillie every week. They are fine they tell me. I believe if I don't get out I will go crazy. I study so hard sometimes I do not know what to do. Wed. 5-22-48

"I do thank all the people for what they are doing for me and the children to get along. I just want to go home to them. I hope that I can go home one day to my little kids and I will rest then. New York, N.Y. Wed.

"May God bless you all." Daily Worker

The letter ends with a note "To My Friends." Again Mrs. Ingram thanks the "people so many times for their goodness and kindness to me and my children." 3-26-48

The Ingram Case Decision

The Constitution

In South Georgia a Negro woman and two sons, one 14 years old, have had a death sentence commuted to life imprisonment.

This is the Ingram case over which the Communists and radicals raised such a furor. They were convicted of killing a white man whose farm adjoined their land, who came with loaded gun to argue about livestock from their place running on his. There were no witnesses save the defendants, who said they acted in self defense. Atlanta, Ga.

The jury's only error, as we see it, was in imposing a death sentence on a 14-year-old boy who joined in a fight on the side of his mother. No state should sentence children of that age to hanging or the chair. When any state does, it inevitably lays itself open to attack and to an unsympathetic consideration of its decisions. Sat. 4-10-48

Certainly a man was murdered.

We are glad the court has disposed of the case as it has. The Constitution

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The request for a new trial was made by A. T. Walden, Atlanta attorney, who argued that the verdict was contrary to the evidence.

NAACP TO ASK FOR REHEARING
OF INGRAM CASE

July 15, 1948

Press Service of the N.A.A.C.P.
New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 7-15-48

ATLANTA, GA., July 15.-- A petition for a rehearing of the Ingram case is being submitted to the Supreme Court of Georgia by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This action follows the decision of the Georgia Supreme Court in affirming, on July 13, the judgment of the trial court denying a motion for a new trial.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-aged sons were convicted by a Georgia jury for the self-defense slaying of a white sharecropper and were sentenced to die in the electric chair on February 27. The NAACP was able to obtain a commutation of the death sentences, but the trial judge then sentenced the Ingrams to life imprisonment. In the recent hearing before the Supreme Court of Georgia, the NAACP pointed out that the evidence introduced at the trial was not only insufficient to sustain a verdict of first-degree murder but was also completely devoid of any evidence showing malice and intent necessary to sustain such a conviction.

The NAACP secretary stated that he was certain that Secretary Marshall would agree that if Mr. Faust made such a statement, he would be unfit to represent the United States Government in any capacity. If the New York Post report is found to be true, Mr. White declared that it was the NAACP's opinion that Mr. Faust should be dismissed from the Consular Service.

Rehearing Will Be Requested

Ingrams Denied New Trial By Georgia's High Court

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.
Courier Pittsburgh Pa. Sat. 7-24-48

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

ATLANTA, Ga.—The Georgia Supreme Court last week upheld life imprisonment convictions for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Wallace and Sammy Lee.

In a unanimous decision, the justices denied a new trial to the convicted "self-defense" slayers of John Earl Stratford, white sharecropper. Sat. 7-24-48

The opinion for the State high court was written by Justice Wyatt. It declared that the unanimous decision was based on the sustaining evidence of the State that the Ingrams and the deceased had engaged in two struggles and that Stratford came to his death during the alleged second altercation.

ATLANTA — Atty. A. T. Walden told The Courier Sunday that he will file a motion with the Georgia Supreme Court Wednesday or Thursday of this week requesting a rehearing of the Ingram case. He should receive an answer within ten days after filing the motion. If the motion is denied, the case will be carried to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Said the opinion: "In the instant case, whether the interval between the time the first encounter occurred and the deceased freed himself and sought to flee and the second encounter during which he was killed by a severe beating was a sufficient cooling time to make the offense murder, was a question which the law placed exclusively upon the jury for determination. The law prescribes no particular length of time which might be considered sufficient cooling period.

"We are not unmindful of the principal of law as embodied in our Code 26-1015, that parents and children may mutually protect each other and justify the defense of the person or reputation of each other. This principal of law, however, does not afford a basis for justification of homicide upon the facts showing that the danger of the relative was not impending.

"While our conclusions in this case might have been different had the State's evidence shown one encounter with the children of Rosa Lee Ingram coming to the aid and protection of their mother and the killing then occuring while the parties were engaged in fighting, we are not called upon to decide this question. In passing on the general grounds of a motion for new trial this court passes not on the weight but the sufficiency of the evidence."

JURY MUST DECIDE

The high court pointed out its opinion that (1) it was a matter for the trial jury to decide whether there was a common intent of the Ingrams "to make the attack upon the deceased" and thereby determine the plausibility of conspiracy; (2) that the defendants made incriminatory statements which in connection with other State evidence authorized the jury to find that all participated in a felonious homicide; (3) that it was the province of the jury, and theirs alone, to put their appraisal upon the proofs submitted to them.

Judge Lilly, presiding in the absence of Justice Bell, concurred in the ten-page opinion.

It will be remembered that during the trial proceedings, defense counsel contended that one continuous struggle preceded the death of the white man. The State, on the other hand, declared that Stratford freed himself from the Ingrams and attempted to flee but was caught and killed during a second struggle.

The Ingrams are confined in Butts County jail at Macon.

NEARLY $16,000 COLLECTED FOR DEFENSE OF MRS. INGRAM

April 15, 1948

Press Service of NAACP

New York, N.Y.

NEW YORK, N.Y., April 15,--The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today announced receipt of a total of $15,853.50 for the defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons convicted of a self-defense slaying by an all-white jury in Americus, Georgia. Thurs. 4-15-48

The sum represents the total amount received by the national office and does not include funds sent to the Americus, Georgia, branch. The bulk of the money came from 117 NAACP branches which contributed $13,094.25. Thirty-two organizations - civic, social, labor, religious and political - contributed $1,083.78. From churches all over the country came $800.18. The remaining $875.29 was contributed by individuals. Press Service of the NAACP

Although the death sentences first imposed on the Ingrams have been vacated, they still face life imprisonment. Edward R. Dudley, assistant special counsel for the NAACP, left this week to consult with Austin T. Walden and other Georgia attorneys in preparation for an appeal to the State Supreme Court for a new trial. The NAACP is prepared to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court if necessary to gain the freedom of Mrs. Ingram and her sons.

4-15-48

APPEAL LIFE SENTENCES OF MRS. INGRAM AND SONS

April 22, 1948

ATLANTA, Ga., April 26.--In an effort to gain the freedom of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Austin T. Walden of this city and Edward R. Dudley of New York, NAACP attorneys, today filed an appeal before the Supreme Court of Georgia seeking a reversal of a lower court decision denying a new trial.

Press Service of The NAACP

New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 4-22-48

The death sentences which had previously been imposed on Mrs. Ingram and her sons for the self-defense slaying of a neighboring white farmer were vacated by Judge William M. Harper of Americus, on April 6. At the same time Judge Harper denied the motion of the NAACP lawyers for a new trial for the Ingrams.

In their appeal to the state Supreme Court, the lawyers contended that the lower court was in error inasmuch as the evidence did not support the verdict of guilty. They maintained that a new trial should have been granted or that the Ingrams should have been set free.

The NAACP is prepared to carry the case to the United States Supreme Court if necessary.

Amy Hunt Writes Ike

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

ASKS GENERAL AID JAILED INGRAMS

Mon. 4-19-48

PHILADELPHIA, April 18. — Mrs. Amy Hunt, mother of Rosa Lee Ingram, today asked General Eisenhower, who is vacationing in Georgia, to help free her daughter. Mrs. Hunt appealed to Eisenhower on reading that he and George E. Allen, confidant of President Truman, had left Washington by private plane with their golf clubs for an exclusive country club near Augusta, Ga.

Mrs. Hunt's letter to Eisenhower follows:

Dear General Eisenhower:

Would you help a Negro mother?

Only a few miles from where you are vacationing in Georgia, my daughter and two of her 'teen-age sons are in jail for life, for defending her life.

Her name is Rosa Lee Ingram. She is 43. Her sons are Wallace and Sammie Lee. They are 15 and 13 years old.

All three were sentenced to die in the electric chair in Georgia Feb. 26.

People all over the country, and from Europe, came to the help of my family. They got the judge to change the sentence on April 8 from death to life imprisonment.

Now people are asking that my family be free altogether. Dear General, would you please help?

The NAACP has promised to help fight for my daughter's freedom to the Supreme Court. Churches, the Civil Rights Congress, unions, so many people are trying to help.

But months are going by. Rosa Lee has been in jail since last November. She is the mother of 14 children. Twelve of them are living. The youngest is only 18 months old.

Rosa Lee wrote me that she is near crazy worrying about her baby and her children.

Daily Worker

Her health is not good. She has had a heart attack in jail. She worries so about her children. Eight of them are living in a poor shack with her eldest daughter.

You are so near. It is not so far from Augusta, Ga., to Ellaville, Ga., where my daughter is in jail.

New York, N.Y.

But they move her from jail to jail. I fear for her life. I fear a lynch mob may get her or the children.

Could you ask the Governor to free her? Could you help?

My daughter was tried and convicted with her boys on Jan. 26. It was a one-day trial. It was an all-white jury.

My daughter is a good woman. She was sharecropping a 26-acre farm. She has been a widow since last August. She has never been in trouble.

Mon. 4-19-48

A white farmer attacked her with a gun and a knife. His name was John Stratford. He was killed when Rosa Lee and her two sons defended her life. Her only crime was to defend her life.

I know if she had been white she would be free today.

I know it is only one Negro mother and her two Negro boys I am asking you to help set free. But please, General Eisenhower, it will surely help the whole world if we free one Negro mother from a terrible injustice in Georgia.

And I will thank you from the depth of my heart.

Sincerely yours,
MRS. AMY HUNT

The Ingram Fund

The Courier-Journal

A few days ago, my son, who is not quite 4 years of age, noticed a serious expression on my face and inquired what I was thinking of. I told him I was thinking of a Mrs. Rosa Ingram, a neighbor of mine, and her children. Immediately, he insisted that I take him to see "our neighbors."

The Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority in Louisville is beginning a financial campaign to help "our neighbors," the Ingrams. A few weeks ago Mrs. Ingram two of her boys were sentenced to die in the electric chair for the slaying of a white sharecropper, John Stratford, who, the boys said, attacked their mother in a field at Ellaville, Georgia. Later, Judge William Harper commuted their death sentences to life imprisonment and denied them new trials.

The Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority is appealing to all people, regardless of race, color or creed, to send in funds to The Louisville Defender, 418 S. Fifth Street, to help this widow and her children. State "for the Ingram Fund" when you send in your contribution.

Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. MYRTLE B. CRAWFORD,
Chairman of the Alpha Kappa Alpha
Sorority Ingram Fund.

Louisville.

Thurs. 4-22-48

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8 Hungry Ingram Kids in a Georgia Shack

By Mary Southard

AMERICUS, Ga., March 28.—The family of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram is marooned in an abandoned house 10 miles northwest of Americus at Leslie.

Daily Worker

We left Americus two hours after the hearing in the county court house. There we met Mrs. Geneva Rushin, the eldest Ingram daughter, who told us that no member of the family has been allowed to visit Mrs. Ingram since she has been held in the Americus jail for nearly two weeks.

New York, N.Y.

We drove 10 miles out into the flowering Georgia countryside to Leslie. Leslie is not a town, just a country crossroads.

Mon. 3-29-48

After cutting through an overgrown muddy house for about a mile we came to the three-doom abandoned house where the eight Ingram children, Mr. and Mrs. Rushin (Geneva Ingram) and their two children are trying to live.

Mon.

The children came out to greet us, all smiles and stares, barefoot and in various stages of recovery from an epidemic of chicken pox: Robert Lee, the 17-month toddler; Frankie Mae, 3; John L., 4; Walter Lee, 6; Dolly Mae, 7; Marcellus, 8; James Frank, 12; Charlie, a young man of 17; and Mrs. Rushin's two babies, Sammie and Rosa Lee.

3-29-48

IN DESERTED HOUSE

They invited us in. This place where they have been living since Nov. 4 is a deserted sharecropper's house, offered them as a refuge by a cousin, Mr. Sam Hill, who lives on a farm nearby. The Ingrams own the adjacent 23 acres, left them by their father, Jackson Ingram, who died last August.

Daily Worker

The house is only a house in name. The floors are warped, the roof leaks, there are no window panes or screens, only an outside pump for water and no toilet.

New York, N.Y.

The family sleeps four to a bed in three big beds, which take up most of the space in the two front rooms. There are boxes, a table, an old wood stove, and that's all. During the bitter cold of the last two months, the children had to stay indoors crowded around the stove, since they had no shoes to wear outside.

The whole burden of trying to keep this family alive is on the shoulders of Mrs. Geneva Rushin and her young husband. Geneva Rushin is a slender lovely young woman of 23. Carrying her baby daughter, she showed us around the place, and told us of their terrible difficulties simply and sometimes even with laughter.

Since Nov. 4 when she and her husband left their farm in Florida to help Mrs. Ingram, they have carried the full financial responsibility for the family. Mr. Rushin worked as a day laborer on Mr. Sam Hill's farm, and sometimes he has been able to get only one or two days' work a week.

Daily Worker

They have gotten one box of canned goods given by friends in Albany. Today, March 25, she got her first aid—$15—from Dr. R. S. Douthard, a member of the Americus Defense Committee. There was a big bag of groceries on the table which she had just bought with this donation.

New York, N.Y.

W. H. Burleigh, treasurer of the Americus Defense Committee, told the Daily Worker that all of the money in the Committee's fund had been used and was being saved for Mrs. Ingram's defense. Until today the committee had no idea of the serious plight of the Ingram family at Leslie. They are now planning to try to find a house for the family, and to arrange to give them money regularly for food and clothing.

Mon. 3-29-48

Mrs. Rushin and her husband have never been able to get any settlement from C. M. Dillinger, Mrs. Ingram's landlord in Ellaville. She was working a two-horse farm there with crops of corn, cotton and peanuts planted, and some 30 head of hogs, all on 50-50 shares. She is legally due half the proceeds from the sale of the crops and the hogs.

Dillinger has taken Mrs. Ingram's milk cow and calf, her own property, which the children badly need, and two large plows belonging to her.

Daily Worker

They asked for a settlement last November, but he refused to say anything until after the trial. Following the trial and the stay of execution Feb. 27, he told them to come back March 1. They went back, but he still refuses to pay them their share, or to return their mother's cow and calf.

The Ingram family of eight children and two grandchildren need help desperately. They need a home, they need food and clothing. The state of Georgia has done nothing; the national government has done nothing to protect these children from starvation and disease, while their mother is a prisoner of the state.

New York, N.Y.

The children have not been permitted to see their mother since she has been in Americus.

Mon.

This correspondent was refused permission to see Mrs. Ingram. However, I learned from a visitor from Chicago, who did get to see her in the company of the lawyer, Mr. Dykes, that she had only two things to say;—she felt that her heart trouble was coming back, and she wanted to see her children.

These are the facts of the American way of life in Americus, Ga.

Foodstuff and Clothing should be sent to Mrs. Geneva Rushin's address, is Route 2, Box 56, Leslie, Georgia.

13c 1948 Legal Sentence (Georgia)--Ingram)

Georgia Dooms Negro Mother, 2 Sons

Daily Worker

By Harry Raymond

Exclusive

A Negro mother and her two teen-age sons are facing death in Georgia's electric chair because they killed in self defense a white Schley County farmer who threatened them with a rifle. New York, N.Y.

The family trio, convicted by an all-white jury in Ellaville, Ga., Jan. 26, is scheduled to die in the Reidsville State Prison death house Feb. 27. Fri. 2-13-48

The story of the Jimcrow trial and conviction of the mother and her boys was pieced yesterday by the Daily Worker through telephone interviews with Schley County Sheriff Devane, of Ellaville, and Gus Selton, a white attorney of Montezuma, Ga.

Sheriff Devane confirmed a report mailed to the Daily Worker that Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 45, the condemned mother, had a disagreement with John E. Stratford, the farmer, Nov. 4, 1947. Devane said the Negro woman testified at the trial that Stratford became enraged when some of her hogs wandered into the white farmer's field. Daily Worker

The farmer, according to testimony, seized a rifle and advanced on Mrs. Ingram. New York, N.Y.

Two Ingram boys, Wallace, 17, and Sammie, 14, both sentenced to die, came to their mother's aid and a tussle ensued. Stratford died from a blow on the head. Fri. 2-13-48

Mrs. Ingram's third son, Charles, 18, was acquitted of the murder charge. Jackson Ingram, a fourth son, was sentenced to serve 12 months in prison on a charge that he removed a purse containing $133 from Stratford's pocket. Daily Worker

Sheriff Devane said the jury refused to believe the family group's version of the farmer's death. Sentence was passed by Circuit Judge W. M. Harper. New York, N.Y.

Sheriff Devane told the Daily Worker he did not witness the altercation in the field. He said, however, he believed the sons intervened and struck the farmer when they found their mother in danger of being shot. Fri. 2-13-48

Devane said Mrs. Ingram and her two sons are at present under guard in the Albany jail, 50 miles south of Ellaville. Fri. 2-13-48 He explained he transferred the prisoners because he "didn't have room for them" in the small Ellaville jail. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Ellaville has a population of 1,000. The Albany population is 25,000, according to the sheriff. Daily Worker N.Y.

TO APPEAL New York, N.Y. Fri. 2-13-48

Gus Selton, attorney in Montezuma, Ga., also reached by telephone, told the Daily Worker that Negro church and fraternal groups in Ellaville are organizing a defense committee to press for appeal of the death sentence.

The committee met last Friday, Selton said, and sent a representative to Montezuma to ask Selton if he would act as attorney in the appeal. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Selton told the Daily Worker he had agreed to enter the fight for freedom of the mother and her boys. He said S. Havokin Dykes, Ellaville lawyer appointed by the court to act as defense attorney at the trial, had taken the first steps to file a motion of appeal. Fri. 2-13-48

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2 Die in Chair For Slaying At Americus

13c

The Constitution 1-3-48

Atlanta, Ga.

REIDSVILLE, Jan. 2—(AP)—LeRoy Scrutchens and Joe Porter, Negroes, died in the electric chair at the State Prison here Friday for the murder in Americus last Halloween of Perry Cannon, an aged nightwatchman. Sat.

In a death chamber statement, Scrutchens said he was involved in the slaying and asked forgiveness. 1-3-48

Porter, in a final statement, said he was present when Cannon was slain, but took no part in it. He said he asked Scrutchens not to kill Cannon.

Scrutchens entered the death chamber at 11:53. He was pronounced dead at 12:03 p. m. Porter entered the chamber at 12:04 and was pronounced dead at 12:09.

The two Negroes were convicted in Sumter Superior Court by a jury which deliberated only six minutes. In unsworn statements, permitted by Georgia law, each man at the trial blamed the slaying on the other. 1-3-48

Woman and Sons Sentenced to Die in Georgia Would Be Free If White, Defense Lawyer Says

The Worker New York, N.Y. Sun. 2-22-48

13c

By Harry Raymond

ELLAVILLE, Ga.—The all-white Schley County jury, which condemned Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, widowed Negro mother, and her sons Wallace 17, and Sammie, 14, to die in the electric chair, based its verdict "on prejudice and not on the law and facts." according to S. Hawkins Dykes, white attorney, who is demanding the three be given a new trial.

"They didn't have a chance before that jury," Dykes declared. "The evidence showed clearly that John E. Stratford, the white farmer whom the Ingrams were accused of murdering, assaulted the mother with a rifle and died from a blow on the head when the Ingram boys came to her defense."

I discussed the case with Dykes, 42-year old World War II veteran and vice president of the Georgia Bar Association, in his home in Americus.

This was his first murder case, he told me, and he accepted the court's appointment as defense counsel because he believed the Ingrams killed Stratford in self-defense. Sun. 2-22-48

"It was terribly unfortunate that Stratford died as a result of the altercation," Dykes said. "But everybody around here knows the Ingrams would be free today had they been white people."

★

THE ARGUMENT on Dykes' motion for a new trial was scheduled to be held in Americus Feb. 21 before Judge W. M. Harper. But Harper agreed to set a later date for the hearing when he learned the record of the case and realized there was not enough time for counsel to prepare arguments. Execution date, originally set for Feb. 17, has been stayed indefinitely, pending outcome of appeal action.

Dykes said he had discussed the case with local and state leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"I am ready to take their advice on legal matters," he stated. "I will need lots of help before we get through with this. If we fail on the new trial motion before Judge Harper, I am going directly to the State Supreme Court and if necessary, to the U. S. Supreme Court. I am positive we will win."

Dykes said he would also demand a change of venue to Americus or Albany which he termed more progressive than the "conservative town of Ellaville."

★

STRATFORD and the Ingrams were tenant farmers working adjoining plots of ground. The altercation in which Stratford died took place in his field, Nov. 4, 1947, when two of the Ingram family's mules (not hogs, as previously reported in this paper) wandered over to the white farmer's land.

The Worker

Mrs. Ingram, who took charge of the farm when her husband died a year ago, went into the Stratford field to drive the mules out. She was met by Stratford who was carrying a loaded .32 caliber hunting rifle. Stratford lifted the rifle and threatened to shoot her. Mrs. Ingram wrested the rifle from Stratford's hands. New York, N.Y.

Stratford then attacked the Negro mother with a knife and beat her over the head. The Ingram boys rushed to their mother's defense. More blows were struck and Stratford fell dead allegedly from a blow from a hammer. 2-22-48

THE INGRAMS were arrested, charged with murder, and taken to separate jails where they were denied the right to consult counsel, third-degreed and threatened. They charge they were forced by threats and promises to make incriminating statements.

Ellaville is in the heart of the black belt. But despite the fact that Negroes form the majority of the population here, no Negro has ever been called for jury service or served on a jury. This fact alone makes the indictment, conviction and sentence of the family trio illegal.

But Dykes told me he had failed to raise Jimcrow jury questions during the triaal and is therefore barred from challenging legality of the jury during argument for a new trial in the low court.

A defense movement in behalf of the mother and her boys had been launched by the NAACP branch in Americus. Last Sunday many Negro preachers called from their pulpits for action to free the Ingrams. New York, N.Y.

I heard a Negro clergyman make an appeal in behalf of the family during a radio broadcast of religious music in Atlanta Sunday night. The defense movement is still of a spontaneous nature and obviously weak. But local Negro groups are confident it will grow through the black belt and in organizations north of the Mason-Dixon line when the true story of the case suppressed by the nation's major newspapers, reaches the people. [illegible]

A Citizen Defense Challenge

Daily World

If protection of the civil rights of citizens is what the Georgia Citizens Defense committee is interested in promoting, it most certainly has a case in the farm mother and her two sons, who are now awaiting electrocution in the State prison at Reidsville. (13C) [illegible] (Ga.)

Here is a case of a woman, who was attacked by a white man, with rifle in his hand, when she sought to restrain him from shooting her farm animals. The facts show that the all-white jury completely ignored the testimony that the slain man advanced upon the woman with a rifle, following which a tussle is said to have ensued, whereupon the sons are said to have intervened. Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 2-4-48

The facts in the case are indeed greatly involved. The woman, Mrs. Ingram, age 45, and her sons, are all country people, knowing nothing about the ways of country life. It is difficult to imagine a Negro living so far in the country stretches and having the habits and tempo of country life so long, to have led an attack upon a white man. The whole order of the South betrays such an easy belief. They don't just go around hunting white people to attack. Lynching and mob violence are designed to discourage any such uppperishness on the part of southern Negroes. And what is even more, little boys, long before they reach the age of these youth, have learned their lessons well as to the safety they have resisting the white man. We repeat, that sort of thing is most difficult to imagine easily, if at all. Daily World

The Georgia Citizens Committee will probably feel that its duty has been discharged toward these distressed people if and when it intervenes and provide whatever help may be necessary. But until that much at least is done, neither ing itself by sitting back resolving to remain aloof from the Georgia Negroes nor the committee have any right in fool- whines and groans of distressed and hapless Negro people. It is most urgent that something be done for them now. It is a Challenge for the Citizens Committee. Wed. 2-4-48

here

Attorneys Say Jury Overrode Judge Charge

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Fri. 3-26-48

Stratford Meant To "Use Gun Or Would Have Left It Home"

By MARION E. JACKSON

AMERICUS, Ga.—(SNS)—Attorneys for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teenage-sons, Sammie, 14, and Wallace, 17, laid the foundation for an appeal to the higher courts here in the historic Sumter County Courthouse as the defense told Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper that the jury which convicted the trio "went hog-wild."

The jurist took under advisement Thursday their plea for a new trial. The Ingrams did not appear at the trial, but it was revealed that they were confined in the Sumter County Jail. This was the first official confirmation of their whereabouts since they were secretly moved from the Dougherty County Jail in Albany, Ga.

SPARSE CROWD PRESENT

This latest chapter in the sensational case was unfolded before a sparse crowd of whites, who lined front row seats in the small courtroom. Negroes traditionally barred from the main floor in the Sumter County Courthouse packed the gallery. Daily World

State troupers aided by county officers vigorously policed the corridors and for several minutes barred Negro newsmen from the main floor. Defense attorneys interceded in behalf of the newsmen and on ordrs of Judge Harper they were admitted. Only halfway through the trial did Negro photographers get the "go" sign. It was too late for pictures although state troupers had admitted a white news service photographer. Atlanta, Ga.

THREE DEFENSE ATTORNEYS Fri. 3-26-48

The Ingrams were represented at the hearing by Troy Morrow, Ellaville, Hawkins Dykes, Americus, and Austin T. Walden, Atlanta.

In opening the plea for a new trial Atty. Morrow contended "the jury went beyond the evidence. Unless they are granted a new trial they will suffer an injustice."

He insisted that there was no "premeditation and they did not intend to kill."

He cited the fact that the trio had engaged in "one continuous struggle and had no time to gain their composure."

He asked "a new trial and a fair and considerate jury."

Attorney Walden questioned "whether the evidence shows murder." He said "the trial judge is the thirteenth juror and the verdict doesn't mean much unless it reaches the approval of the trial judge who must determine whether substantial justice is done."

"If the judge's orders had been carried out the jury could not have found a verdict of murder."

ONE FAIR TRIAL Atlanta, Ga.

Solicitor General E. L. Forrester said the State Constitution only guaranteed anyone accused of crime "one fair trial." Daily World

"When they have had one fair trial" Forrester said, "they don't have any right to another simply because they didn't like the verdict." Fri. 3-26-48

Forrester said that defense attorneys had filed only a skeleton motion for a new trial and had not challenged the fairness of the first trial. He described the case as "cruel and barbarous murder."

WITH CLEAN HANDS

He said "our hands are clean" and described the court as "a court of illustrious history." (13C)

He said he had never demanded "of any jury to inflict the death penalty." [illegible]

"We have a case so clean that they can't put their hands upon one single thing." Daily World

He declared that "I did not tell the jury they shouldn't electrocute a teenager and I never intend to."

"I have no apology for the jury's action . . . no apology for Schley County . . . one of the most law abiding counties in the United States." Atlanta, Ga.

"I will never agree that the law of murder be wiped off the statute books." Fri. 3-26-48

After a five minute recess the Court heard Atty. Hawkins Dykes insist "that I have no complaint on the trial. I sat up all night trying to punch holes in the case."

MEANT TO USE GUN

He stated that "Stratford meant to use the gun or he would have left it at home." Daily World

He questioned the manner in which the judge had charged the jury regarding the confession of the defendants. He said "a single confession against John Doe can only be used against that defendant."

NO MALICE PROVED

He said the state failed to prove malice and did not have evidence of malice. He said the jury ignored undisputed evidence that John Ethron Stratford struck the first blow and insisted that felonious assault was a matter of law. Fri. 3-26-48

"It was the duty of the court to instruct the jury on every material issue of the case." Atlanta, Ga.

"There was no evidence that the defendants were advised "they did not have to make a statement and the confessions were gotten before they were represented by counsel."

Reveal Justice Department Is Studying Affair

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.— (NNPA)—President Truman had not heard until last Thursday of the case of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, Wallace, 16 and Sammion, 14, who are under sentence of death for the killing of John E. Stratford, 66-year-old white tenant farmer in Georgia.

Sun. 3-28-48

Asked at his press conference whether the Justice Department or any member of the White House staff had brought the case to his attention, Mr. Truman replied that the question was the first he had heard of it.

Sun. 3-28-48

Mrs. Ingram and her two sons were originally scheduled to die in a Georgia prison on February 27 but a motion for a new trial stayed their execution. The motion was argued last Thursday at Americus, Ga., and taken under advisement by Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper.

Stratford was killed in November 1947 after he allegedly had threatand Mrs. Ingram during an argument over the Ingram's mule being in his field. He was beaten to death with his own rifle, a hoe and a claw hammer.

The Justice Department has been studying the case but it is doubtful whether any Federal law has been violated.

Truman Says He Never Heard Of Ingram Case

The Worker–N.Y.
Sun. 4-4-48

WASHINGTON (FP).—The death sentence imposed by a Georgia court on a Negro mother and two of her sons, aged 14 and 17, has not been brought to his attention, President Truman said March 25 in response to a question at his press conference. It was the first he had heard of it, Truman said.

The second week in March a CRC delegation called on Philleo Nash, assistant to David Niles, White House advisor on minority problems, and outlined the Ingram story. Nash promised then that the matter would be brought to Truman's attention. Sun. 4-4-48

The Justice Department said its civil rights section is looking into the case to determine whether federal officials can take any legal action. A spokesman, however, said there is apparently nothing to prevent a state from executing a 14-year-old under its own laws.

Civil rights authorities here point to President Woodrow Wilson's intervention in the Tom Mooney frame-up of 30 years ago as adequate precedent for action by Truman.

13c 1948 Legal Sentence (Georgia--Ingram)

INGRAM DEFENSE IN HANDS OF NAACP

3/26/48

13c L.S.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 22---At a special call meeting of the executive committee of the Georgia State Conference of NAACP Branches, which was held March 22 with NAACP executive secretary Walter White and Attorney A. T. Walden, the legal defense of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons was discussed and procedure agreed upon. The defense is being handled by NAACP attorneys.

Fri-3-26-48

All funds raised for the Ingrams in the State of Georgia should be sent to Attorney A. T. Walden, Walden Building, 23 Butler Street, NE Atlanta, Ga., for deposit to the account of the Ingram Defense Fund. Contributions from outside of Georgia should be sent to the national office of the NAACP, 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, N.Y.

13c

NAACP TO APPEAL DEATH SENTENCE OF GEORGIA WOMAN AND HER SONS

N.A.A.C.P. Fri-2-20-48

New York, N.Y., Feb 19 - The NAACP announced this morning that its attorneys have been retained by relatives of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram of Americus, Georgia, who, along with her two teen-age sons, was sentenced to death by electrocution for the alleged murder of a white farmer. The Association's attorneys in Georgia have already taken steps to appeal this conviction and have obtained a stay of execution in the case.

NAACP lawyers stated that according to the minutes of the trial, Stratford, the white farmer, found some farm animals belonging to the Ingram family and got out his .32 calibre rifle to shoot them. While so armed, he met Mrs. Ingram about halfway between his house and the Ingram farm. When Mrs. Ingram sought to stop the white farmer from shooting her animals, a tussle allegedly ensued. The woman's two sons, Wallace, 17, and Sammie, 14, intervened when they saw their mother in danger of being killed; the farmer became so irate that he was only subdued when struck a heavy blow across the head by one of the sons.

New York, N.Y.

The local legal staff of the N.A.A.C.P. in Georgia is making a thorough investigation of this case. Together with the national office of the N.A.A.C.P., Georgia lawyers intend to take the case to the Supreme Court if necessary.

Fund Sought for Negro Mother, Sons As Talmadgeites Press for Execution

The Worker N.Y.

Sun. 2-29-48

3c

By Harry Raymond

ELLAVILLE, Ga.—The constitutional right to avail themselves to "due process of law was denied to Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, widowed Negro mother and her two teen-age sons when they were doomed to the electric chair by an all-white jury here last month.

The State of Georgia did not give the three the slightest opportunity to conduct a proper defense during the swift one-day kangeroo trial Jan. 26 in the ancient Schley County Courthouse.

The defendants, taken to separate jails when they were arrested Nov. 4, 1947, were denied the right to consult an attorney until the date of trial. It was too late then for S. Hawkins Dykes, attorney appointed by the court, to interview witnesses and prepare evidence and arguments to beat down the monstrous frameup.

★

EVERYBODY TODAY in this little town of 1,000 knows that John E. Stratford, white farmer, attacked Mrs. Ingram and threatened to kill her with a .32 caliber rifle. Stratford died from a blow on the head when Wallace Ingram, 15, and Sammie Ingram, 13, rushed to defense of their mother.

The story of the altercation in the field was told to me by Charles Ingram, 17, brother of the two condemned youths and one of Mrs. Ingram's 12 children.

"My mother went over to Stratford's field to get our hogs and mules that had wandered away." Charles declared.

PRINCETON MEN GIVE TO INGRAM FUND

3/5/48

NAACP - N.Y. Fri. 3-5-48

Princeton, N. J., March 4--In response to an appeal by John H. Bunzel, president of the Princeton Liberal Union, the sum of $50 has been raised on the campus of Princeton University for the Ingram defense fund. At a recent meeting, Bunzel told, the story of the arrest and conviction of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer in Georgia. Half of the contribution was collected at a meeting of the Union after Mr. Bunzel spoke. The remainder was contributed out of the treasury of the organization.

NAACP lawyers are seeking a new trial for the Ingrams. A stay of execution, originally set for February 27, has been granted and the attorneys have filed a motion for a new trial now scheduled for a hearing on March 20. The NAACP, Mr. White points out in his appeal, has not only undertaken the legal defense of Mrs. Ingram and her sons but has also assumed the responsibility of taking care of the motherless children ranging in age from 17 months to 14 years.

NAACP - N.Y. N.Y. Fri. 3-5-48

"Unhappily our funds have been depleted by the heavy costs of the fights we made in recent years against restrictive covenants, disfranchisement, educational inequality, job discrimination and gross court injustice," the appeal concludes. "We can fight for the Ingrams and others like them only if you will help us." Checks or money orders should be made payable to Allan K. Chalmers, Treasurer, NAACP, and mailed to the NAACP at 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Woman Widowed by Lynchers Appeals to Truman

The Worker New York, N.Y.

'IN THE NAME OF MY LYNCHED HUSBAND, MR. PRESIDENT, FREE THE INGRAMS!'

Sun. 4-18-48

NEW ORLEANS. — A woman whose husband was killed by a lynch mob and whose son fought in the last war and with another in the Army today, appealed to President Truman last week to save Mrs. Rosa Ingram and her two sons, facing a life sentence.

Mrs. Royal C. Brooks is the widow of "an unarmed, peaceful Negro," as she describes her late husband who was killed by police in Gretna, La., several weeks ago. A Committee for Justice in the Brooks Case has been set up here.

Mrs. Brooks contributed $10 to the Ingram defense out of a collection "made for me when my sole provider was killed." She sent the money to the NAACP in Americus, Ga., for the Ingrams.

The NAACP received the following letter from Mrs. Brooks:

"From one who has herself felt the lash of lynch law in the murder of my husband, Royal C. Brooks, by a representative in police uniform of the Negro haters in the South, please accept the enclosed $10 to be used in the fight for the freedom of the Ingrams. I wish it could be more, but I am myself penniless and the money I send is part of a collection of $29 made for me when my sole provider was killed.

New York, N.Y. Sun. 4-18-48

"I have today sent the enclosed telegram to President Truman urging that he act to save the Ingrams. I shall continue to do all I can to help them."

Her telegram to the President follows: Sun. 4-18-48

"In the name of my dead husband, Royal C. Brooks, murdered a few weeks ago by the lynch police in Gretna, Louisiana, and in the name of my people who have had their constitutional rights and even lives ground into the earth for generations in the South, I ask you to stop the authorities from killing Mrs. Ingram and her young sons.

"My boy fought in the last war to preserve democracy and the rights of people of all races, religions and color. My other boy is now enrolled in the U. S. Army, whose racial segregation you could wipe out with a stroke of the pen. But neither of their actions was sufficient to save their father, an unarmed, peaceful Negro, from the unprovoked attack of the police representative of that brutal system in Louisiana.

The Worker

"In the name of my boys, too, I ask that you use your office to save Mrs. Ingram and her boys from the fate of my late husband. It is too late to help my husband. There is still time to save the Ingrams.

"We who suffer the indignities, terror and murder in our daily existence, as well as the many whites who are aiding us in fighting these brutalities, cannot accept your statement on civil rights as anything more than a statement unless you use your high office to end this injustice by freeing Mrs. Ingram and her sons."

$19,349 FOR INGRAM DEFENSE

April 22, 1948

Press Service of the NAACP New York, N.Y. Thurs. 4-22-48

NEW YORK, N.Y., April 21.-- Receipt of $3,496.01 during the past week raised the NAACP Ingram defense fund to a total of $19,349.51. Of this sum, $15,859.58 came from 295 NAACP branches, $1,051.58 from churches, $1,500.56 from other organizations, and $937.79 from individuals.

HIGH GEORGIA COURT TO HEAR INGRAM PLEA

May 13, 1948

13a

Press Service of the NAACP New York, N.Y. Thurs. 5-13-48

NEW YORK, May 13.--The case of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, sentenced to life imprisonment for killing a white

Georgia Cops Tie Visitor To Lamp Post

The Defender

Sat 4-3-48

Rights Delegate To Ingram Trial Nabbed In Atlanta

Chicago Def.

Southern hospitality turned out with handcuffs in Atlanta, Ga. last week to welcome Charles Alexander, representative of the Chicago Civil Rights Congress, who went to Dixie to attend the trial of the Ingrams.

Arrested three times within twenty-four hours Alexander was handcuffed to a telephone pole in front of a high school at East Point, an Atlanta suburb, and kept there for three hours for the ridicule of the students who were told by the police that "this is what happens to Yankee n...... who come down here."

Held overnight, his belongings seized and $91 taken and not returned, Alexander was forced to pay $17 on a disorderly conduct charge which the policemen, Officers Holt and Roberts, specified as "cussing on a bus."

In an interview with the Chicago Defender Friday upon his return north, Alexander said that he had cursed. He explained that apparently the officers who took him from the bus, for the second time that day, did not know what Negro they were to arrest and took two other off first by mistake. When Alerander rtfused to leave the bus, they cursed him and, said Alexander, "I curset them right back."

Sat 4-3-48

This, however, was the climax of an exciting visit which included an interview with Mrs. Rosa Ingram and her two teen-age boys, sentenced to be executed in the death of a white sharecropper who had beaten Mrs. Ingram with a knife handle, cut her badly and threatened her with a gun.

Having traveled 12 miles to gain permission of the sheriff of the county in which the incident took place, Alexander was permitted into the two-story frame building at Americus, Ga., where Mrs. Ingram and her two boys are being held.

Alexander states that the building is a lynch trap and that as far as he could see it was protected by only two or three men. Mrs Ingram gave Alexander, he claims a note asking that he urge the Governor "or someone" to have her and her sons moved to a safe place in Atlanta. Alexander says that East Point policemen took the note when they seized his other belongings including his money, much of it funds for the Ingrams defense.

Mrs. Ingram, he says, was in good spirit and believes that intervention of Northerners will still save her and her sons. However, the older of the two boys, seems sullen with defeat and worried over his mother, Alexander stated, and refused to discuss the case.

Present status of the Ingram case, as of Friday morning, was that the Judge had taken under advisement a motion for a new trial which was heard Thursday.

Attorneys for the defense told the Chicago Civil Rights Congress that they confidently expected a new teial in view not only of local development but of national pressures which have reached even to President Truman.

Mrs. Ingram's mother, Mrs. Amy Hunt, of Philadelphia, accompanied a delegation to Washington on behalf of her daughter and arrangements are being made to send Mrs. Ingram's other children from Georgia to Philadelphia to stay with Mrs. Hunt.

Alexander says, in commenting upon his three arrests, his being held for two and one half hours in a telegraph office while police with a trumped up story, investigated him by long distance to Chicago, that the entire thing was a conspiracy to halt his efforts on behalf of the Ingrams. He had an appointment to see the Governor and was on his way to ask a white bishop to accompany him at the time of his third arrest. When released he left Dixie by a circuituous route to avoid further molestation.

GROSS MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE, WALLACE WIRES GA. GOVERNOR REGARDING DOOMED INGRAM TRIO

The Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Says Negro Excluded From Jury and No Self-Defense Evidence Presented

DEMANDS NEW TRIAL

NEW YORK, N. Y. — (G) — Demand for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two minor sons who, Third Party Presidential candidate Henry Wallace charged were convicted and sentenced to death" under circumstances which would clearly indicate a gross miscarriage of justice," was contained in a wire sent to Gov. Melvin E. Thompson of Georgia last Saturday.

The wire stated:

"I have been deeply shocked by the death sentence imposed upon Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two minor sons under circumstances which would clearly indicate a gross miscarriage of justice. It is apparent that no adequate opportunity was given to prepare the case for the defense or to present the evidence showing that Mrs. Ingram and her sons were forced to act in self-defense. In addition, Negroes were systematically excluded from the jury notwithstanding numerous decisions of the United States Supreme Court which denounced this practice as unconstitutional.

Sat 4-10-48

"Considerations of simple human justice require that the Ingrams be granted a new trial with full opportunity to adduce all the evidence and make a full legal defense in accordance with their rights as American citizens. I, therefore, urge you to instruct the State's Attorney, on behalf of the State of Georgia, to consent to the motion of the Ingrams for a new trial and to make such steps as may be necessary to guarantee that the jury in the case shall be selected in accordance with constitutional requirements, giving full opportunity to Negroes for jury service.

Mrs. Ingram Okeys NAACP Defense

NEW YORK—From her prison [illegible] in Americus, Ga., Mrs. Rose Lee Ingram, issued a statement last week authorizing the NAACP "to take complete and exclusive charge of the defense of myself and minor sons, Wallace Lee and Sammie Lee."

Mrs. Ingram, a widow, and her sons were convicted last fall in the self-defense slaying of a neighboring white farmer in the Superior Court of Schley County, Ga.

Following argument recently for a new trial by NAACP attorneys, Judge William M. Harper announced that he would reserve his decision, expected momentarily. All defense funds are to be sent to the NAACP, 20 West 40th St., New York City, N.Y.

Daily Worker

'Save Ingrams' Pamphlet Out

done

The first 100,000 copies of **'The Ingrams Shall Not Die'** a pamphlet by Harry Raymond, Daily Worker reporter, have already been sold, Wholesale Book, Inc., reports. Orders for the two-cent pamphlet to New Century Publishers have come in from the west coast, midwest and South, as well as New York.

Raymond's dispatches from Ellaville, Ga., about the case in which a Negro mother and her two sons had been sentenced to the electric chair aroused the entire nation. Now in 16 pages Raymond has vividly retold the tragic tale of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her boys, Sammie and Wallace, and has turned the spotlight on the savage southern system of "justice" for Negroes.

New York

In a hard-hitting preface, New York City Councilman Benjamin J. Davis sounds "a summons to action." He commends Raymond and the Daily Worker who "rescued this shocking case from the conspiracy of silence to which the monopoly-controlled 'free press' had consigned it."

Mon. 3-22-48

So far New York City leads the nation with 60,000 pamphlets distributed Sunday. California orders total 30,000; Detroit wants 4,000; New Jersey, 12,000; Houston, Tex. 1,000; Flint, Mich., 6,000, Boston, 200, Toledo, O., 150, and Chapel Hill, N. C., 200.

3-22-48

Wholesale Book, Inc., states, the printers are rushing them an additional 25,000, while New Century's additional needs will raise the total by 35,000 more.

If Given Retrial, Can't Die In Chair

Courier

Pittsburgh Pa.

Sat. 5-15-48

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE
(Courier News Editor)

ATLANTA, Ga.—Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, now imprisoned in the Bibb County jail here, cannot be sentenced to the electric chair again if they are granted a new trial by the State Supreme Court.

Under the Georgia law, the judge presiding over a new trial for the Ingrams would have to instruct the jury on only voluntary manslaughter and self-defense, according to Atty. A. T. Walden who is representing the Ingrams in the slaying of a white Georgia sharecropper.

HEARING JUNE 14

Hearing before the State Supreme Court on an appeal for a new trial has been set for June 14. After hearing the evidence it will be about thirty days before the Supreme Court justices hand down a decision.

If the Ingrams should be granted a new trial and are found guilty of voluntary manslaughter, the sentence would range from one to twenty years. In case the jury should rule that the killing was in self-defense, the Ingrams would be acquitted.

If the Ingrams were granted a new trial and received maximum sentence for voluntary manslaughter, they would be eligible for parole after serving one-third of the sentence.

5-15-48

Should the State Supreme Court turn down the Ingrams' plea for a new trial, Attorney Walden will carry the case to the United States Supreme Court. "I plan to exhaust every legal remedy to save the Ingrams," Attorney Walden declared.

5-15-48

Arrested and sentenced to death for the November 4 slaying of Ed Stratford, the Ingrams were snatched from the death cell several weeks ago when the trial judge commuted the death sentence to life.

Mrs. Ingram and her two teenage sons have been in prison for six months, and during that time have been prisoners in five Georgia jails.

Justices Rule Facts Justify Lower Court

Columbia S.C.

Appeal To U. S Supreme Court Appears Likely

6/18/48

BY C. LAMAR WEAVER

The Georgia Supreme Court in a unanimous decision handed down Tuesday upheld a lower court's decision which denied a new trial but commuted death penalty convictions to life imprisonment for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, Wallace and Sammy Lee.

The 40-year-old widow and her two sons, ages 14 and 16, had the death penalty verdict returned against them by an all-white Schley county jury which found them guilty of first degree murder on Jan., 26 in the slaying of a white tenant farmer, John Ethron Stratford. The Ingrams contended that the 66-year-old farmer was killed in self-defense when he attacked Mrs Ingram with a rifle following an alleged argument over one of the Ingram's mules being in his cornfield.

On April 6 Defense Attorneys argued a plea for a new trial before Superior Court Judge William M. Harper, of Americus, who denied the appeal but commuted the death penalties to life imprisonment. The case was subsequently carried before the State Supreme court for jurisdiction.

WYATT WRITES OPINION

Justice Wyatt who wrote the high court opinion declared that the unanimous decision was based on the sustaining evidence of the State that the Ingrams and the deceased had engaged in two struggles and that he came about his death during the latter altercation.

The opinion read:

"In the instant case, whether the interval between the time the first encounter occurred and the deceased freed himself and sought to flee and the second encounter during which he was killed by a severe beating, was a sufficient cooling time to make the offense murder, was a question which the law placed exclusively upon the jury for determination. The law prescribes no particular length of time which might be considered sufficient cooling period."

TWO STRUGGLES DISPUTED

During trial proceedings the defense contended that one continuous struggle preceded the death of Stratford, while the state declared that Stratford freed himself from the Ingrams and attempted to flee but was caught and killed during a subsequent fight. Statford was alleged to have been killed from several blows about the head.

PARENTS-CHILDREN LAW CITED

The opinion reasoned:

"We are not unmindful of the principle of law as embodied in our Code 26-1015 that parents and children may mutually protest each other, and justify the defense of the person or reputation of each other. This principle of law, however, does not afford a basis for justification of homicide upon the facts showing that the danger to the relative was not impending.

"While our conclusions in this case might have been different had the State's evidence shown one encounter with the children of Rosa Lee Ingram coming to the aid and protection of their mother and the killing then occuring while the parties were engaged in fighting, we are not called upon to decide this question. In passing on the general grounds of a motion for new trial this court passes not on the weight but the sufficiency of the evidence."

JUDGE LILLY CONCURS

Judge Lilly who presided in absence of Justice Bell concurred in the opinion written in 10 pages.

Other points cited in the opinion were:

(1) That it was a matter for the trial jury to decide whether there was a common intent of the Ingrams "to make the attack upon the deceased" and thereby determine the plausibility of conspiracy.

(2) That the defendants made incriminatory statements which in connection with other State evidence authorized the jury to find that all participated in a felonious homicide.

(3) It was the province of the jury, and theirs alone, to put their appraisal upon the proofs submitted to them.

Meanwhile, the Ingrams are said to be confined at the Butts county jail, in Macon, Ga.

Their attorneys, A. T. Walden, representing the Georgia Conference of the NAACP Branches, and Edward R. Dudley, assistant special counsel for the NAACP, of New York, were unavailable Tuesday for comments regarding the decision and forthcoming plans in the case which has received international recognition.

13c

The shabby farmhouse where the Ingrams lived . . .

Some of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram's children.

The Life Story of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram

"I tried to leave last September, but I couldn't find anything then. Before this killing happened I had made up my mind to leave after harvesting this last crop and go to work as a sharecropper on another farm. I wanted to leave because Mr. Stratford kept bothering me.

"I got $15 from the plantation owner the day before my husband died. I haven't borrowed any money from him since that time. I worked hard trying to make a living . . . I raised some fine hogs, shaked peanuts and picked cotton."

Mrs. Ingram hesitated at this point and I had to ask her more questions.

Sat 4-3-48

"I don't know what is going to happen," she said. "I sure would like to get out and see my children. If it hadn't been for my daughter and son-in-law coming back from Florida and taking my little children to my cousin's (Samuel J. Hill), I don't know what would have happened to them.

"I ain't never been outside of the State of Georgia . . . except down here, but this is Georgia, too, ain't it? I once thought I would take a trip to Philadelphia to see my mother, but I guess I won't now.

"If they'd free me, I'd either go to Florida or to Philadelphia. I wouldn't want to live in Americus or Ellaville again. . .

"My two oldest boys didn't want to stay on the farm anyway after their father died," she continued. "But I urged them to stay on and help me with the crop . . . and I didn't get a penny out of the crop.

"I haven't seen my children since I've been in jail . . . only my oldest girl. I wouldn't have let nothing like that (the killing) happen out there for nothing in the world."

Mrs. Ingram got up and walked around the cell before she talked again.

"I've been in three jails since they arrested me. I was at the Oglethorpe jail two weeks. I was in the Perry jail two weeks, and now I've been here more than a month.

"I was glad they took me out of the jail at Perry. They was mean to me there. The food was bad and they wouldn't let me see anybody. The food is good here. They have a good chef. He's much better than that woman cook in the Perry jail."

Mrs. Ingram smiled. "There's something else I want to say. I want you to thank everybody through The Pittsburgh Courier who sent me money, clothes and food.

Sat 4-3-48

"I thank them for everything they did for me . . . I thank them for everything — prayers, clothers, money and food.

"I don't have to worry about food and clothes. My only worry is that they took me away from my pitiful little children. I sure have been hurt. I have cried many days . . . I think that is the reason I have been having pains over my heart."

Send Letters, Wires Today

Free-the-Ingrams Campaign Gaining Nationwide Support

The Courier
Sat 10-2-48
13c 4 Sect

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE
(Courier News Editor)

Pittsburgh, Pa

Hundreds of Americans last week responded to the campaign launched by The Pittsburgh Courier in its Nation-wide effort to free Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons.

A report leaking out of the Georgia prison, where Mrs. Ingram and her sons are now confined, said the 40-year-old widow and mother of fourteen children broke into tears when it was whispered to her that a new campaign had been launched in her behalf.

LONG TIME IN JAIL

Mrs. Ingram and two of her sons have spent almost a year in five Georgia prisons while their case has been carried through several State courts. Convicted for the self-defense slaying of a sharecropper, the three Ingrams were sentenced to die. Later, the sentences were commuted to life imprisonment.

Mrs. Ingram's other children, most of them tots, are now living in a shanty on a farm near Americus, Ga.

Sat 10-2-48

The Courier, in launching its Free-the-Ingrams campaign, called on Americans throughout the Nation **to send messages by letter or wire to members of the Georgia State Board of Paroles and Pardons and out-going Gov. M. E. Thompson urging them to review the Ingram case and either pardon or parole the three prisoners.**

WHERE TO SEND

Letters and wires should be addressed to the Governor and members of the State Board of Paroles and Pardons. Members of the Board are Edward B. Everett, chairman; Mrs. Helen W. Coxon and Grover C. Byers.

Acting Governor Thompson, under a new Georgia law, cannot take action in the Ingram case unless he receives a recommendation from the Paroles and Pardons Board. He does, however, have the right to sit with the Board members when they are reviewing cases.

The Georgia Board of Paroles and Pardons is considered fair, and The Courier believes it will review the Ingram case if properly urged.

One of the first persons to send a letter to the Baord in behalf of Mrs. Ingram and her sons was Mrs. Lelia Clark of Pocohantas, Va. In her fervent plea, she asked freedom for the widow and her sons.

Meanwhile, NAACP attorneys, headed by Thurgood Marshall, are mapping further defense plans for the Ingrams.

Ingram Fund Hits Total of $44 691

The Courier

Sat 10-30-48

Pittsburgh Pa.

NEW YORK—The NAACP announced this week that contributions to the Ingram Defense Fund over a period of eight months total [illegible]691.8[illegible] Contributions received from 518 NAACP branches total $30,260.47. Individuals have contributed $1,695.38; churches, $1,888.98, and other organizations, $10,847.03.

13c 1948

Legal Sentence (Georgia--Ingram)

New Trial Plea Of Woman, Sons Studied by Judge

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

AMERICUS, March 25—(AP)—Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper took under advisement Thursday a motion for a new trial for Rosa Lee Ingram, Negro, and her two teen-age sons. Fri.

The three are under death sentence for the slaying of John Ethron Stratford, a white tenant farmer, following an argument over the Ingrams' mule being in Stratford's field. 3-26-48

In making a plea for a new trial, Troy Morrow, of Ellaville, where the case was originally tried, said "the jury went beyond the evidence in this case. Unless they are granted a new trial they will suffer an injustice."

Hawkins Dykes, an Americus attorney, and H. E. Walden, an Atlanta Negro attorney, who were also representing the three accused, made similar contentions.

Both Dykes and Walden said the evidence in the case was not sufficient for a murder conviction. They contended that Stratford was the aggressor.

Dykes said that the defense was not contending that the Negroes did not receive a fair trial, but that "the jury just went hog-wild."

Sol. Gen. E. L. Forrester said the State constitution only guaranteed anyone accused of a crime "one fair trial." The Constitution

"When they have had that one fair trial," Forrester said, "they have no right to another one simply because they didn't like the verdict." Fri 3-26-48

Forrester said that defense attorneys had filed only a skeleton motion for a new trial and had not challenged the fairness of the first trial. He described the case as a "cruel and barbarous murder."

The Negroes were not present at the hearing. They are in the Sumter County jail here. Atlanta

Mother Fears for Life of Mrs Rosa Ingram

Daily Worker

By Walter Lowenfels

PHILADELPHIA, March 16.—The mother of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram today wired the Governor of Georgia, Attorney General Tom Clark, and President Truman to act immediately to save her daughter from a possible lynch mob. Wed 3-17-48

Mrs. Amy Hunt, whose daughter and two teen-age grandsons face the electric chair in Georgia, became worried when she heard yesterday that Mrs. Ingram and the boys had been moved last week without warning from the jail at Albany to Americus. New York, N.Y.

"The people at Americus are as mean as they can be. My son who lives across the way here in Philadelphia got a letter Monday from Rosa Lee Ingram's aunt, Mrs. Dora Jackson, who lives in Americus.

"Dora wrote that she went to visit Rosa Lee in the Albany jail last week and she wasn't there. Then she went to the jail in Americus and visited Rosa Lee there. "I fear for Rosa Lee in Americus. Why did they move her so [illegible]kly to that place? How do [illegible] know where they have taken h[illegible] week? How do we know wher[illegible] or whether she is safe today? Wed 3-17-48

Mrs. Hunt's message to Governor Melvin Thompson, President Truman and Attorney General Clark said: "Why was my daughter R[illegible] Lee Ingram moved from th[illegible] bany jail I fear for her life [illegible] her two boys, Wallace and Sammie Lee, aged 15 and 13. Is she in the Americus Georgia Jail now? Where are my daughter and grandsons? Daily Worker

"I fear the whole family may be wiped out.. I fear that if Rosa Lee and the boys are granted a new trial at the hearing March 20, that there are people in Georgia who will try and take the law into their own hands.

"I want to know where Rosa Lee is now. I want this mother of 12 children should be protected from any lunch mob. She should be freed with her teen-age boys and sent back to her 17 months old baby and other children.

"Now even her whereabouts are uncertain. Her safety worries me.

Ingram Delegation Leaves Tomorrow

Daily Worker

The New York "Save the Ingrams" delegation which will demand that President Truman and Attorney General Clark intervene in behalf of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, leaves tomorrow (Thursday) for Washington. The delegation will leave on the 7:30 a.m. train from Pennsylvania Station. Wed 3-17-48

"My people were sentenced to death because they defended their lives from an armed white farmer, I fear if the death sentence isn't carried out by the officials it may be carried out by a lynch mob. Wed.

"Where is my daughter being held? Is she still alive? Can you promise me her safety?"

Mrs. Hunt, will join the delegations which demand federal government intervetion. She will board the New York train to Washington at Philadelphia. 3-17-48

The New York "Save the Ingrams" delegation, joining delegates coming from a dozen states, will ask action by President Truman and Attorney General Clark.

"We will demand to know the whereabouts of Mrs. Ingram," said Mrs. Audley Moore, organization director of the United Women and Youth to Save Mr. Ingram. "And we will demand that the Department of Justice intervene on her behalf. The President can use his executive offices to guarantee that Mrs. Ingram's rights are proteeted in the matter of a jury with Negroes on the panel, the right to prepare a proper defense and the defense of her witnesses against intimidation." Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

New York organizations whose members will go to Washington Thursday include: the Women's Auxiliary of the National Maritime Union, Congress of American Women, Domestic Union, the International Workers Order and a number of church groups. Wed 3-17-48

Chicago Groups Aid Ingram Defense

Daily Worker

Special to the Daily Worker

CHICAGO, March 16.—A crowd of over 300 Negro and white persons protested the "legal lynching" of the Ingram family at a rally at the progressive Baptist Church

Sponsored by the Committee to Aid in the Defense of the Ingram family, the rally called on President Truman to intervene in behalf of the Georgia Negro mother and her two sons. It also voted to support a delegation visiting the President on Thursday and a picket line before federal offices here on Saturday. New York, N.Y.

Grant W. Oakes, president, CIO United Farm Equipment Workers called on President Truman to halt the Ingrams' scheduled execution.

A delegation of trade unionists is scheduled to leave here to attend the March 20 hearing on the Ingram case at Americus, Ga., at the request of the local defense committee. Wed. 3-17-48

Deter Hearing on New Trial for Ingrams

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.
Mon. 3-22-48

AMERICUS, Ga., March 21.—Hearing on a motion for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, Negro widow, and her two teen-age sons, sentenced to die for the self-defense slaying of a white Ellaville, Ga., farmer, was postponed yesterday until March 26.

S. Hawkins Dykes, defense counsel, asked Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper for the postponement. Dykes said he needed more time to prepare his argument. The case was scheduled for hearing yesterday.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons, Wallace and Sammie, are confined in the Sumter County Jail, in Americus.

They were secretly transferred here from the Dougherty County Jail in Albany a week ago when Dougherty County Sheriff D. Cull Campbell complained of the large number of telephone calls from "northern newspapers and magazines" and "visits by attorneys."

DELUGED BY WIRES 3-22-48

Meanwhile, Judge Harper, trial judge in the case, complained he was being "deluged with telegrams from many people outside the state." Daily Worker

"This definitely is an attack on the courts," declared the judge, a leader of the local Talmadge white-supremacy movement. "I refuse to be influenced by outside interference. Northern newspapers seem to have the wrong information on the case, and it is not as they have related it. I intend to do what is right as I always have tried to do." New York, N.Y.

The Ingrams are charged with beating John E. Stratford, neighboring white farmer, to death with his own rifle after Stratford threatened to kill Mrs. Ingram with that rifle.

ATLANTA, Ga., March 22.—The Atlanta CIO Council adopted a resolution condemning the conviction and death sentence of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons. There was a large attendance at the meeting and the resolution was passed by a large majority vote. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

The Ada B. Jackson and Modern Youth Clubs of American Youth for Democracy held a three-hour mass demonstration Saturday at Fulton St. and Throop Ave., Brooklyn, Saturday, protesting death sentences imposed on Mrs. Rose Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons. 3-22-48

Twelve persons signed petitions demanding revocation of the sentences. The petitions were sent to Gov. Thompson of Georgia, U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark and President Truman. The rally sent $13 to the Ingram defense fund, P. O. Box 43, Americus, Ga. Mon.

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22 Pigs in One Litter

MT. VERNON, Ill. (UP).—E. J. Stone believes one of his Duroc sows set a new record for motherhood among her breed when she farrowed 22 pigs in one litter.

Life of the Party

What You Can Do to Save Mrs. Ingram and her 2 Sons

Daily Worker

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

New York, N.Y.

A FURTHER ACCOUNT of my Florida trip can wait a few days. But action on behalf of a Negro woman, a widowed mother of twelve children, facing death in Georgia cannot wait. **This poor helpless victim of Jimcrow "justice," Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, is sitting in jail in Albany, Ga., awaiting death in the electric chair on March 6. That's next Saturday, five days from now.** Mon 3-1-48

Convicted with their mother, and sentenced to die with her, are two teen-age boys—Wallace, 15 years and Sammie, 13. Their joint trial lasted one day. The jury was an all-white jury. The lawyer who defended them

was a local white attorney appointed by the court.

They were sentenced on Jan. 27 to be executed on Feb. 27. Only the plea of their lawyer, S. Hawkins Dykes, that he had not yet been supplied with the court record, secured the postponement until March 6. The tragedy of Oregon, where a Negro veteran was rushed to legal lynching before a defense could be properly organized for him is likely to be repeated in Georgia, if the nation is not alerted immediately. **We must act.**

If you did not see Harry Raymond's magnificent, heart-rending account of his trip to investigate this case—do look it up. It was in the Daily Worker Feb. 23. I heard Harry tell the story at a board meeting and many eyes were wet. It was a hard trip for Harry to make and if these victims are wrested from the hands of lynchers, he can be thanked for starting the campaign. One paper will carry it on without a let-up.

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HARRY RAYMOND interviewed a leading Negro farmer of the county, Sam Hill, who took the seven small Ingram children into his house, after their mother's arrest. Last November a neighboring white farmer, John E. Stratford quarreled with Mrs. Ingram, beat her and struck her repeatedly with a knife and threatened her with a rifle.

Daily Worker

She was bruised and covered with bloody wounds when the officers came. The white farmer was struck on the head and died. She had one of her older boys call the Sheriff's office, feeling certain they would realize she had acted only in self defense of herself and her children. Harry Raymond interviewed many Negro sharecroppers and tenant farmers and verified these facts.

New York, N.Y.

He visited the small one-story three room house on the Hill farm, where Mrs. Ingram's daughter Mrs. Geneva Rushia, who came up from Florida with her own two children, is now taking care of the little brood of seven small children, whose ages run from seventeen months to eleven years—. He says: **"Here was the real American tragedy. Here is Heartbreak House. Here's why men stand up and fight."** 3-1-48

Big-eyed and somber these children stared at the white strangers, fearful of what they meant. The little ones were all barefoot. They haven't sufficient food, clothes, not even enough diapers for the babies. Their landlord, Dillinger, for whom they worked on a sharecropper 50-50 basis, took away their only milk cow, a calf, 15 hogs, and the crop of corn, cotton, cane, and peppers which Mrs. Ingram had raised. The only thing he allowed them to take away was house furniture and a mule. He kept all their tools—leaving this little family destitute and helpless.

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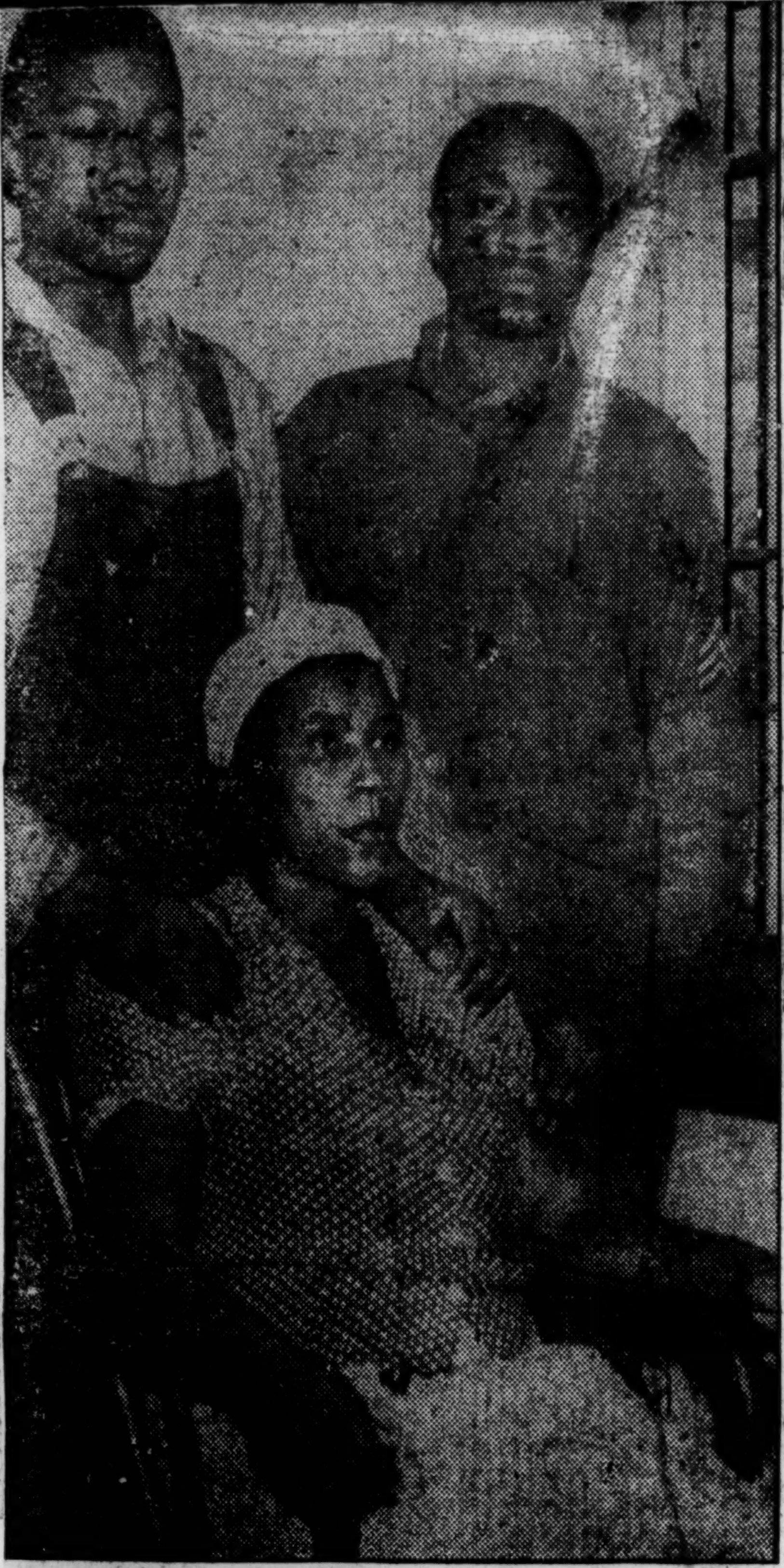
THE AMERICUS, GA., Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people will gladly receive funds to help in the defense of Mrs. Ingram and her two boys and to help the family. The treasurer is Mr. W. R. Burleigh, P.O. Box 43, Americus, Ga. But wires and letters must go post-haste to Governor Melvin E. Thompson, Atlanta, Ga., and also to Circuit Judge W. H. Harper, Ellaville Ga., demanding a new trial, with adequate counsel and before a mixed jury. Your protest against this terrible act of Southern Jim-crow "justice" must go in at once. A letter to President Truman asking about his "Equal Justice for all" and how it measures up to this legal lynching—would not be out of place. Daily Worker

I'd like to see a committee of women gather up that little family, as they are, and bring them up to sit on the White House steps, to confront Mr. Truman when he comes home from his Caribbean jaunt and to ask "What about our Mama and brothers?" New York, N.Y.

Time is the essence. We cannot delay. The Scottsboro boys would have been buried away in quick time years ago except for the tremendous mass movement of the people. Mrs. Ingram and her two boys imploringly look to us—Negro and white Americans—to save them. The Helen Lynch Club, Forbes Section, acted at once, sending $10 and a protest. Do likewise and let us know here at the Daily Worker office what you do. Mon 3-1-48



GOVERNOR SNUBS APPEAL FROM CHAIR—Gov. Thompson of Georgia has snubbed the appeal to stay execution of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her sons, Wallace and Samuel, shown above outside their cells in Albany, Ga. They have been sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Ingrams' Hearings Today At Americus

(13 C)

Atlanta Daily

Wed - Atlanta, Ga.

AMERICUS, Ga.—(SNS) — The long-awaited and oft - postponed hearing on a motion for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teenage sons, Sammie, 14, and Wallace, 17, is scheduled to be heard today by Southwest Judicial Circuit Judge W. M. Harper.

The Ingram case has attracted nationwide attention since November, 1947 when John Ethron Stratford, a white sharecropper was slain in an argument near Ellaville, in Schley County, Ga.

Thur-3-25-48

So great was the interest manifested in the case the trio was transferred from the Dougherty County Jail in Albany to an undisclosed prison. Their appearance here today will be the first view the press and public will have had of them since Sheriff D. C. Campbell asked their removal "because folks are calling me night and day from everywhere about them."

The Ingrams were snatched from the electric chair by the petition for a new hearing back in February. They had been sentenced to die Feb. 27.

The Ingrams were convicted of bludgeoning to death, the 66-year-old farmer in a dispute over farm animals grazing on his land. They claim self defense. Stratford was armed and had threatened Mrs. Ingram before the fatal beating. Her sons came to her rescue. In the ensuing fight Stratford was beaten to death. Thur-3-25-48

The case was originally scheduled for March 20, however defense counsel asked postponement.

Atty. Austin T. Walden, Atlanta, will assist the original trial counsel. The NAACP has taken complete charge of the case.

MOTION FOR RETRIAL OF INGRAM CASE
SET FOR MARCH 20

Press Service of the NAACP

Americus, Ga., Feb. 26--Attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will present, on March 20, an argument for a motion for a retrial of Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons, who were sentenced to death by electrocution for the alleged murder of a white farmer. The argument will be heard in Americus, before Judge W. H. Harper of the Superior Court of Schley County and will be opposed by Solicitor General N. L. Forrester of Leesburg. The Ingrams had been condemned to die on February 27, but NAACP lawyers in Georgia were able to obtain a stay of execution.

New York, N.Y. Fri. 2-27-48

Until the record of the trial is in the hands of NAACP attorneys, the full grounds for all the arguments which will be made in support of a new trial will not be known, but NAACP lawyers are confident that the conviction cannot stand. The record of the trial shows that John E. Stratford, the white man whom the Ingrams were accused of murdering, assaulted the mother with a rifle on November 5, 1947, and died from a blow on the head when the Ingram boys, Wallace, 17, and Samuel, 14, came to her defense. For three months, the three Ingrams were held in jail and had no legal advisers. On February 2, 1948, they were indicted. On February 3, in a one-day trial, with only court-appointed counsel to defend them, Mrs. Ingram and her two sons were convicted and sentenced to death.

The office of Governor M. E. Thompson of Georgia has been swamped with telegrams from throughout the country, asking him to intervene in this case, which has made mockery out of justice. Mrs. Ingram is the mother of twelve children, the youngest of whom is seventeen months old, and the grandmother of two. Her husband died last year, so the family of fifteen is presently without any means of support. The Ingrams are now being cared for and fed by their neighbors and by the local NAACP.

Contributions to aid the NAACP in the Ingram case should be sent to the National Office. 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.

Georgia Governor Spurns Plea To Save Negro Woman, 2 Sons

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 2-26-48

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25.—In a cold, tersely worded telegram to people protesting Georgia's Jimcrow justice in sentencing Mrs. Rosa Ingram and her two teen-age sons to die in the electric chair, Georgia's Gov. Melvin E. Thompson attempted to evade the state's responsibility in the case.

Replying to Dr. Herman Singer, chairman, and Mrs. Catherine McCable, co-chairman of the Wallace for President Club in the First Congressional District here, Thompson said:

"Under Georgia law matters of pardon and parole and matters relating to commutation of sentence imposed by our courts are exclusively within the jurisdiction of

the Pardon and Parole Board. Executive authority exists only for the granting of reprieves, stays of execution, and before any action by the Governor of Georgia can be taken, all matters relating to such as these must be first presented to the Pardon and Parole Board and passed on by that body."

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. 2-26-48

NAACP THANKS 'WORKER'

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

The Americus, Ga., branch of the National Association for the advancement of Colored People, yesterday thanked the Daily Worker and the paper's readers for their support of the fight to free Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, sentenced to death for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer.

"We acknowledge with thanks your last two letters with gifts for the Ingram Defense," said W. R. Burleigh, treasurer of the Americus NAACP, in a letter to Harry Raymond, Daily Worker reporter and author of the pamphlet **The Ingrams Shall Not Die.** "The donation from the eight-year-old boy was quite touching. Fri.

"The wide response from your article on the case in the Daily Worker has been indeed generous, and many contributors have referred to your paper as being the only one in New York thus far giving any publicity to the case. 3-19-48

"We wish you to know that the local branch NAACP, the Defense Committee and the Ingram family will ever feel indebted to you, your paper and its readers for the generous aid you have given, morally and financially."

To Save a Life

MRS. ROSA LEE INGRAM, Negro mother of 12 children, won't know it, but on Wednesday morning a delegation of women is going to see President Truman to try to save her life.

Daily Worker. N.Y. N.Y.

Mrs. Ingram and her two young sons were railroaded to die in the electric chair because they defended themselves against an armed, enraged farmer.

Today, Mrs. Ingram's whereabouts are unknown.

Angry at protests which he received, the local sheriff has removed her to an unknown jail somewhere in Georgia. Her peril is great. Tues. 3-16-48

The New York Save Mrs. Ingram Committee is helping to rouse the nation to the infamy which has been committed against this Negro mother who weeps in her cell for the children—down to a 17 months infant—from whom she has been torn away.

The Washington delegation will leave from Pennsylvania Station, Wednesday morning at 7:30 A. M. We urge organizations to send representatives, and all individuals who can to join it.

An Opportunity For Statesmanship

Atlanta Daily World

Tales of the Ku Klux Klan, lynching, violence, and intolerance come out of Georgia have besmirched and embarrassed us before the civilized world. Not that the good citizens of Georgia have fostered or condoned this type of lawlessness but because a small minority in our state are irresponsible, thoughtless and criminal in their actions and thinking.

Atlanta, Ga.

At the most we are being publicized nationally and internationally because of the trial and conviction of a 43-year old mother and her two sons, who were indicted, tried and convicted in three days. The trio is under death sentence but an appeal for a new trial has been made to Superior Court Judge W. M. Harper of Americus, Ga., because the defense contended that the jury went "hog-wild" in sentencing them to death. Tues 3-30-48

The Ingrams claimed "Self Defense." There were no witnesses other than the accused family.

Now the opportunity to clear Georgia's name before the sane and balanced Court of the World is up to Judge Harper.

We believe the Judge believes in impartial and unbiased Justice, and that he does not favor "quick trials and convictions" in a heated and hostile atmosphere.

So the burden of Justice and Fair Play in this case is thereby shifted to his shoulders. Let's hope that Judge Harper rises to the Judicial Statesmanship of which he is so surely capable.

Negro Grandmother's Plea

'Please Save My Daughter And Grandsons'

The Worker

New York, N.Y. Sun. 3-7-48

By Walter Lowenfels

PHILADELPHIA.—Rosa Lee Ingram's mother has called on the people of America to save her daughter and her two grandsons from the Georgia electric chair.

Her name is Amy Hunt. She is, like her daughter, the mother of 12 children. In the grave modeling of her face, and her quiet dignity and courtesy, Mrs. Hunt recalls the picture of Whistler's mother that hangs in so many homes.

"I have been praying to the good Lord to please let her and the kids come clear."

We found Mrs. Hunt living in a spotless, two-room top floor apartment in North Philadelphia. She came north from Georgia six years ago.

★

MRS. HUNT'S ACCOUNT of her daughter's trouble is the same that thousands have now read in this paper and the Negro press. Rosa Lee Ingram, attacked by a white man with a gun and a knife, screamed for help. Her two sons came to her defense. The Ingram family saved their lives, and the white man died.

"If she and the boys hadn't defended themselves, he would have killed her. I never heard of anything like it happening before—a person killed in self-defense, and they want to kill my daughter and her boys for it.

"If my daughter and her boys had been killed, nobody might ever have heard of it, or how it happened. There's killing and lynching and jailing down there you never hear about up North.

"Now they want to kill my daughter and the boys because they saved their own lives. They want to do what that white neighbor couldn't do." The Worker

★

THE WORKER was the first paper to call on Mrs. Hunt. We found her in a search for a brother and sister of Rosa Lee Ingram we learned lived in Philadelphia. We finally located their homes, but they were out. Then neighbors told us of Mrs. Hunt.

Mrs. Hunt asked us to send out this message: **"Please help to save my daughter's life, and her two boys. I would ask all the brothers and sisters would they please donate something for my daughter's defense, with a dime, or pennies, or 50 cents.**

"Please ask the Governor of Georgia, please ask the President of the United States, please ask the Attorney General—to help stop my daughter's execution and free her and her two boys.

"I know it will help us all—every one of us, in the North and South, if we save my daughter's life. But there isn't much time left." New York, N.Y. Sun 3-7-48

THE PEOPLE SAVED THEM

AN EDITORIAL Daily Worker

MRS. INGRAM and her two boys will not die!

Public protest, launched by this paper, has snatched them from the hands of the Georgia executioner.

They would have been dead today had it not been for the fight to save them.

No newspaper would touch the story of the frame-up of a Negro mother of twelve children.

The Daily Worker tore the veil off the horrible story, and started the fight. New York, N.Y.

The first round has been won. But Mrs. Ingram and her boys must be completely freed! They committed no crime. They defended themselves against attack. For this, the Jimcrow system sentenced them to the electric chair. Wed. 4-7-48

Let the country hear the tragic story of this Negro mother and her children. Demand that Mrs. Ingram and her boys go free.!

AMERICUS, Ga., April 6.—Mrs. Rosa Ingram, widowed Negro mother of 12 children, and her two teen-age sons were saved from death in the electric chair today by a judicial commutation of sentence.

Judge William M. Harper, who sentenced the trio to death on Jan. 27, commuted the sentence to life imprisonment. He then overruled a defense motion for a new trial. Daily Worker

Attorneys for the National Association for Advancement of Colored People are expected to appeal the case before the Georgia Supreme Court in a new effort to free the Ingrams. New York, N.Y.

The decision of the judge was seen by local Negro leaders here as the first major victory in a case of notorious Jimcrow justice. Protests from hundreds of thousands of outraged citizens demanding freedom of the Ingrams have been pouring in to local and state officials from every state in the nation. Wed. 4-7-48

EXPOSED BY "WORKER"

The Daily Worker was the first daily newspaper to expose the brutal frame-up of the mother and her two sons and to demand their freedom. Two hundred thousand copies of a pamphlet, **The Ingrams Shall Not Die,** by Harry Raymond, who investigated the case for the Daily Worker, were published by the paper and distributed from coast to coast.

Mrs. Ingram and her sons, Wallace, 15, and Sammie, 13, were convicted of murder in Ellaville, Ga., Jan. 26, by an all-white jury for the self-defense slaying of John E. Stratford, a neighboring white farmer who threatened to kill Mrs. Ingram with a .32 caliber hunting rifle.

Stratford attacked Mrs. Ingram with the rifle in a cotton field near Ellaville, Nov. 4, 1947, when he became angered over some of the Ingram hogs and mules that wandered into his field. Mrs. Ingram seized the rifle during a struggle with Stratford. Stratford clung to the rifle with one hand and beat Mrs. Ingram over the head with a clasped knife held in his other hand. Stratford died from a blow on the head after the Ingram boys came to their mother's rescue.

HELD INCOMMUNICADO

Daily Worker

Mrs. Ingram, after reporting the fatal altercation to the sheriff, was taken all covered with blood, with her sons, to the Schley County jail, held incommunicado and indicted for murder.

The Ingrams were sharecroppers. And when Mrs. Ingram, Wallace and Sammie were arrested and sentenced to die, their landlord, C. M. Dillinger, confiscated the Ingrams' 15 hogs, their milk cow and calf, their share of the crop and all of the family's farm tools and equipment. New York, N.Y.

Eight of the Ingram children, the youngest 17 months and the oldest 17 years, have been living in dire need with Geneva, 24, the oldest Ingram daughter, in a tiny three-room shack on their cousin's farm since the mother was arrested. Wed. 4-7-48

In commuting the sentence, Judge Harper said he did so "according to my own discretion." He did not elaborate or give any reasons.

Neither the Ingrams nor their attorney, S. Hawkins Dykes, were in court when the judge handed down his decision. He made the decision public through C. C. Holliday, a reporter for the Tri-County News, local daily newspaper.

Negro Mother of 12 Faces the Electric Chair

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Mon. 2-23-48

13C L. Sent.

AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 22.—Hearing on a motion for a new trial for a widowed Negro mother and her two teen-age sons, sentenced to die in the electric chair Feb. 27 for the self-defense slaying of a white farmer, was postponed yesterday until March 6.

Circuit Judge W. M. Harper, who passed sentence on the trio in Ellaville Jan. 27, granted the delay after defense counsel S. Hawkins Dykes stated the court stenographer had not yet supplied him with a record of the one-day trial.

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, 45, the mother, and her sons, Wallace, 15, and Sammie, 13, were convicted by an all-white Schley County jury Jan. 26. The youths, whose ages were previously given incorrectly by local officers as 17 and 14, and the mother were charged with killing John E. Stratford, tenant farmer, with a blow on the head last November when the latter threatened to kill Mrs Ingram with a hunting rifle.

By Harry Raymond

ELLAVILLE, Ga., Feb. 22.—Tears welled up in Mrs. Geneva Rushia's wide brown eyes when she spoke of her mother.

"I saw her in the Albany Jail," she said suppressing a sob. "I took her some clothes. She is brave and tells me not to worry. But to think of her waiting there—such a good mamma—waiting to go to the electric chair. And my brothers Wallace and Sammie—they're just children—sentenced to die, too."

Others had told me earlier how Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, widowed Negro mother, and her two teen-age sons were forced to subdue John E. Stratford, neighboring white farmer, when he came into the field last November threatening to kill Mrs. Ingram with a rifle. Daily Worker

Stratford was felled by a blow on the head and died. The Ingrams were condemned to death last month by an all-white Schley County jury. Execution date, originally scheduled for Feb. 27, has been stayed pending action on a motion for a new trial. New York, N.Y.

I knew these facts when I arrived in southern Georgia a week ago. But one cannot measure the full depth of this terrible tragedy of jimcrow justice without knowledge of the hidden facts of the case—facts that no major newspaper or news service in the nation made the slightest effort to ascertain and publish.

To get the true story of the case I spent a week visiting and interviewing Negro tenant farmers and sharecroppers along the red clay back roads of Schley and Sumter Counties. Sam Hill, leading Negro farmer of Sumter County, gave me my first piece of startling news. Mon.

"Mrs. Ingram is the mother of 12 children," he said. "When the officers came to the Ingram farm and carried away Mrs. Ingram, all covered with blood from the beating from that white farmer, and arrested the four older boys, seven little ones, the youngest 17 months and the oldest 11, were left behind in that farm house with nobody to care for them."

Mr. and Mrs. Hill went over to the Ingram farm when they learned of the arrest of Mrs. Ingram and the boys and brought the seven little Ingrams to the Hill farm for safe-keeping. 2-23-48

Mrs. Rushia, 24-year-old daughter of the condemned mother, her husband Sam Rushia and their children, Sammie, 4, and Rosa, 2, hurried back from Florida, quitting work in the bean harvest, to take care of the stranded Ingram children.

It was in a small one-story, three-room house on the Hill farm that I talked to the Rushias and Charles Ingram, 17-year-old boy who was arrested with his mother but acquitted of the murder charge.

Rushia and Charles Ingram were fighting a threatening brush fire when we drove up. Mrs. Rushia, a slender woman with warm dark eyes and a beautiful, intelligent face, came out to greet us. Seventeen-month-old Robert Lee Ingram was in her arms. Trailing behind her were Frankie May Ingram, 3, John Ingram, 5, Walter Lee Ingram, 6, Dollie May Ingram, 7, Marcella Ingram, 9, James Frank Ingram, 11, and her two children. 2-23-48

HEARTBREAK HOUSE

We stood for a moment, stunned by the scene. The children were barefooted. My friend who drove me up in the car was thinking; I too thought—Here was the real American tragedy. Here was Heartbreak House. Here's why men must stand up and fight.

My friend spoke first. "We've collected some money in Americus and Atlanta and we'll get some milk and other food out here for the kids," he said. Mon

"Oh, we need it bad," said Mrs. Rushia. "But we would have had enough if Mr. C. M. Dillinger, mamma's landlord, hadn't taken our milk cow, a calf, our 15 hogs and the whole crop of corn, cotton, cane and peppers. The only things he would let us take from the farm were our house furniture and our mule. And the mule ran away yesterday." 2-23-48

TAKES TOOLS

Dillinger also confiscated the Ingram's plough, cultivator, peanut weeder, shovels, rakes, pitchforks and other small tools.

The Ingrams had originally rented the farm from Dillinger, a resident of Americus. But last year, shortly before Mrs. Ingram's husband died and until she was taken to jail, they worked it on a 50-50 sharecropping agreement. The cow, calf, one mule and farm tools are the private property of the Ingrams. They claim 15 of the farm's 30 hogs half the money from $500 worth of peppers marketed by the landlord, half share of a quantity of cribbed corn, a quarter of acre of cane and a bale of cotton.

ORGANIZE DEFENSE

Mon. 2-23-48

All throughout the south Georgia countryside the Negroes are organizing for a fighting defense of the doomed mother and her sons. Most active in the fight is the Americus Branch of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, headed by J. Balnum Ponsey, local auto mechanic. New York, N.Y.

The Americus NAACP has already raised $1,000 for the defense fund. But the group is calling for a national drive to win this case. A local delegation is being organized to visit landlord Dillinger and demand return of the Ingram property. Daily Worker

"Tell them up in New York," a local Negro leader told me, "that this is another Scottsboro case and we have got to put everything we can muster behind it, legally, financially and organizationally."

Doomed Mother Sobs for Her Baby

Daily Worker

By Harry Raymond

I cannot get the picture out of my mind: a widowed Negro mother, doomed to death, waiting, waiting, in a lonely cell of the grim Albany, Georgia, jail. Her one all-consuming thought is of her children. Fri. 2-27-48

"They need me," she cries out. "I want my baby." New York, N.Y.

Two of her children, Wallace Ingram, 15, and Sammie Lee Ingram, 13, are not far away. They, too are in the Albany jail waiting, condemned to die with their mother. But strong brick walls separate them. Their visits together are brief formal affairs in the Sheriff's office.

And how can a mother pour out fully the love, the hope, the fear and grief that is in her heart in such a family gathering, with jail guards glaring or smirking from all sides and noting every spoken word?

ALL WHITE JURY Daily Worker

Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram, the mother, and her two sons are not murderers. Mark that well. A Schley County all-white blue ribbon jury pronounced them guilty of murder following a one-day kangaroo trial in Ellaville, Ga., Feb. 26. New York, N.Y.

But it was in self-defense that one of the Ingrams on Nov. 4, 1947, struck John E. Stratford, white farmer, and killed him. The only eye witnesses testified that Stratford attempted to kill Mrs. Ingram with a hunting rifle. 2-27-48

When she grabbed the rifle, Stratford beat her to a bloody pulp with a knife handle. Stratford died from a blow on the head when the Ingram boys rushed to their mother's rescue.

The little frightened group all barefooted except Charles and the oldest sister, Mr. Geneva Rushia, 24, was huddled in a tiny farm shack 12 miles from Ellaville when I drove up through a peanut field to talk to Mrs. Rushia.

The Ingram children were left fatherless last August. When their mother was taken to jail they were driven from the land they were sharecropping.

That was crime No. 1.

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

LANDLORD STOLE GOODS

Crime No. 2 was committed by landlord C. M. Dillinger, of Americus, Ga. With the family off the land, he proceeded at once to confiscate the Ingram's milk cow and calf, 15 hogs, a corn crop, a $500 pepper crop, a half acre of cane, a bale of cotton, a plow, cultivator peanut weeder and all small farm tools.

Crime No. 3 was the death verdict of the jury. This is being challenged by attorneys for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The death sentences have been stayed pending argument on a motion for a new trial. The date of argument has been advanced from March 6 to March 29. But the lives of the family trio still hang on a slender thread.

This is the picture I cannot get out of my mind. And I am convinced Georgia Jimcrow justice will prevail if the democratic people of the nation do not rally in mighty protest against this most brutal assault against the Negro people since the Scottsboro case. Daily Worker

When I left Georgia I told the Ingrams and their friends that I would ask the American people everywhere to come to their aid in their tragic hour of need.

And that is why I am retelling this story for the fourth time. I believe it cannot be told too often.

HOW TO HELP New York, N.Y.

But telling the story is not enough. There must be: Fri 2-27-48

- Mass protest rallies throughout the nation.
- Funds for defense. They can be sent to W. R. Burleigh treasurer Americus NAACP, P.O. Box 43, Americus, Ga. Fri 2 27 48
- Letters, telegrams and resolutions to Gov. Melvin E. Thompson, Atlanta, Ga., demanding revocation of the death sentence and immediate release of the Ingrams; prosecution of landlord C. M. Dillinger for illegal property confiscation; restoration of farm equipment to the Ingram family; payment to the Ingram family at once the full price of the stolen crop.
- Letters and telegrams to President Truman demanding federal action to guarantee safety of the Negro people of Schley and Sumter Count , Georgia.

They call this murder in Georgia. In any civilized court it would be declared justifiable homicide and the defendants would have been freed. But under Georgia's rules of Jimcrow law it is a crime for Negroes to defend themselves against white murderers and lynchers.

DRIVEN FROM LAND

There has been a three-fold crime committed in Georgia. It was committed by the State of Georgia, and I am witness to that crime and its terrible consequences.

I did not see the little mother and her boys in the Albany jail. But I saw the baby she weeps for every day and night in that jail—little Robert Lee Ingram 17 months old. Then there is Frankie May Ingram, 3, John Ingram, 5, Walter Lee Ingram, 6, Dollie May Ingram, 9, James Frank Ingram, 11, and Charles Ingram, 17. Fri 2-27-48

President Rebuffs Mother Of Doomed Negro Woman

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

By Walter Lowenfels

Mon 4-5-48

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.—Intervention by President Truman in behalf of Rosa Lee Ingram and her two teen-age sons "at the present time would be premature." This is the answer that Mrs. Amy Hunt, Rosa Ingram's mother, has received in her letter asking the President to help save her family's lives. The answer, from T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant U. S. Attorney General in the Department of Justice was dated April 1. "Information presently available to this Department," Quinn wrote, "indicates that competent counsel has been secured for your daughter, that motions for new trials are now pending, and that, presumably, appeals and further legal proceedings are likely should new trials be denied.

"Under such circumstances I am sure you realize that intervention, either by the Department or the President, at the present time would be premature."

Quinn declared that "however," if it should "later appear that the rights guaranteed to your daughter by the Constitution and laws of the United States have been denied, the Department will give careful attention to the matter and undertake whatever action the circumstances may warrant." Daily Worker

Mrs. Hunt had written the President on March 12: "Would you lend a hand? Would you help save a mother's life? Her only crime was to defend that life. If she had been white I know she would be free today . . ." New York,

Mrs. Hunt continues to express deep concern for her daughter's present safety in Georgia. N.Y.

"I fear they may take her out of jail and kill her," she declared. Mon 4-5-48

MRS. AMY HUNT
Pleads for daughter, grandsons

'Save Ingrams Days' Set for March 20-21

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Mon. 3-8-48

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., March 7.—Mrs. Amy Hunt, whose daughter Rosa Lee Ingram and two teen-age grandsons face death in Georgia's electric chair, today urged that the weekend of March 20-21 be observed throughout the nation as "Save the Ingram Family Days." She asked that community groups, churches, fraternal orders, trade unions and other organizations and individuals demand freedom of her doomed daughter and grandsons.

Mrs. Hunt made the appeal for the lives of the three members of her family in the office of Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, president of the Philadelphia Branch of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

Mrs. Hunt explained that her daughter, a widowed mother of 12, and her grandsons, Wallace, 15, and Sammie, 13, of Ellaville, Ga., were sentenced to die for the self-defense slaying of John Stratford, white farmer. Stratford threatening to kill Mrs. Ingram with a rifle.

"Most people have not yet learned the facts in my daughter's case," Mrs. Hunt told reporters. "It was a clear case of self-defense by an unarmed woman and two of her 12 children against an armed man.

"My daughter's youngest child in 17 months old. She says: 'My baby needs me." I hope people of all races and creeds will help me to save my daughter's life and obtain freedom for my two grandsons." Mon 3-8-48

URGES DELEGATIONS Daily Worker

Magistrate Rainey urged the following actions to culminate March 20-21: telegrams and delegations to be sent to Gov. Melvin E. Thompson, Atlanta, Ga., President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark, Washington, D. C.; suitable observances in churches; mass meetings and petitions; discussions and resolutions in organizations; and funds to aid the Ingram defense.

It was pointed out that March 20 is the date set for a hearing in Americus, Ga., on a motion by NAACP attorneys for a new trial for the Ingrams. New York

An "Ingram Family Defense Committee" has been set up here at 1412 Fox Building. (Defense funds can be sent to this address or directly to W. R. Burleigh, treasurer, Americus NAACP, P. O. Box 43, Americus, Ga. N.Y.

NAACP APPEALS FOR DEFENSE FUNDS

An urgent appeal for funds for the legal defense of Mrs. Roca Lee Ingram, widowed mother of 12 children, and her two teen-age sons, was sent out yesterday to 1,600 branches of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

Calling the Ingram case "one of the most shocking miscarriages of justice in the 39 years the NAACP has existed," Walter White, secretary, urged the branches to arrange mass meetings and send speakers to churches, trade unions and other organizations in a concerted campaign to raise funds for the Ingrams and other legal defense work of the Association.

13c 1948

Legal Sentence (Kentucky)

Jury Assesses 21-Year Term In Bar Slaying

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Prosecutor Argues Life Held Too Cheap

6-4-48

"Juries have played with these colored murder cases," Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Charles W. Anderson, Jr., argued in Criminal Court yesterday.

An all-white jury then sentenced William Miles to 21 years for killing Rudolph Mace in an ordinary barroom fight. It was the sentence Anderson asked and the heaviest sentence possible on conviction for manslaughter.

It marked the first break in Anderson's fight to get long sentences for routine Negro slayings. He is the only Negro assistant prosecutor in the South.

Pleads for Example.

The Courier-Journal

"This case," he told the jury, "is just the kind you get two or three times a week. It starts at a bar and winds up in the morgue. This won't stop until word gets around that juries down here are getting tired of it. A few boys serving a long time will make the rest of these fellows leave their knives and pistols at home.

"We've had to fight to get two or three years in these cases. That's no way to stop murder. It means a man can be paroled almost before he's in good.

"It's a free ticket to LaGrange for the winter, with steam heat, bath, plenty to eat—and out in time to see the horses run in the Derby. As long as that goes on, people in Jefferson County, white and colored, must bow their heads as our murders increase.

Louisville, Ky.

Cheapness of Life Flayed.

"In fact, all of us should be aroused about it. Jefferson is getting into the Hazard and Harlan class in holding life cheap.

"When we started this trial there had been 24 colored murders in Louisville during 1948. While you were in your room during a recess, I was called out to see about No. 25. Fri.

"Juries before you haven't done their jobs. You can't help that. You can help by starting now with a good long sentence—21 years." 6-4-48

Miles stabbed Mace 18 times near the Circle Bar on South Hancock near Breckinridge. The fight followed an argument with Miles' sister, who was Mace's girl friend.

Two Negroes were called while the jury was being selected. Anderson accepted them to try the case, but defense attorneys removed them.

13c

Mattio Pays Supreme Penalty For Murdering Second Ward Politician

The Informer

Feb 17 48

NEW ORLEANS—Maintaining a calm attitude and giving an amazing exhibition of fortitude, Irvine Mattio, 1[illegible] of 1239 South Liberty street, walked with a firm almost uprightly step to the state-owned portable electric chair in Parish Prison shortly after noon Friday when he paid with his life for the slaying nearly three years ago of Sylvain P Cassagne, Old Regular leader of the Second Ward, who resided at 1239 Dryades street.

At 12:03 P.M. Mattio was placed in the chair. Electrodes [illegible] attached to his leg and clean-shaven head, his arms were strapped down. Asked if he had anything to say, Mattio replied, 'No." The heavy leather mask was slipped over his face and strapped to the back of the chair, the signal was given, the state executioner shoved the lever at 12:10 P.M. sending 2,500 volts of electricity crashing through the condemned man.

Houston Texas

The coroner listened for a heartbeat, Mattio was still alive. Twenty seconds later 2,800 volts were applied and at 12:15 P.M. he was pronounced dead. His debt to society had been paid.

The youth was calm and displayed no emotions when visited several days before the execution by an Informer-Sentinel reporter.

I don't want to say anything," he said, "I don't want to say anything for the papers.'

Asked if he would just talk with the newspaperman, he consented but when the conversation reached the point of his having attended Mc Donogh 36 school, Jackson Avenue and Freret streets, he stopped suddenly saying, No, I don't want to talk; if I talk to you, you will put what I say in the papers."

Incidentally, Mattio's name had been frequently mentioned in connection with the criminal assaulting of three small girls four years ago on the premises of that school.

A Holy Bible and several religious papers were between the bars of the death cell, however, he was an avid reader of comic books.

His mother and brother visited him that day also. He was calm and displayed no emotion.

Thursday night was spent in prayer by Mattio who was assisted by Sisters of Charity. He repeated prayers after them. Mattio embraced the Catholic faith some weeks ago, prison attaches told the Informer-Sentinel. For supper that night he ate a cheese sandwich and drank a cup of coffee.

Mattio was awakened at 7 A.M. Friday and went to the prison chapel where he received communion. Back in his cell he asked for a breakfast consisting of an egg sandwich and a cup of coffee. After breakfast he was allowed to sit in the exercise room in front of the death cells where he engaged in a checker game with Wilbert Powell who is also under death sentence for a robbery-slaying.

Houston Texas

The game, with Mattio having the advantage, was interrupted when Assistant Wardens James Meredith and Harry Mussel and Deputy William Howell came to shave his head and leg.

They said Mattio was in good spirits and laughed while being shaved.

I don't deserve to die," Mattio told Deputy Criminal Sheriff William Grosch who read the death warrant at 10:55 A.M. 'I killed him trying to protect my life."

As the whistle at a nearby lumber yard signoled noontime, Mattic left his death cell to walk 26 steps to the electric chair in the execution chamber. He was flanked on one side by the Parish Prison priest, Father Joseph Miller, who recited the Litany, and on the other by Chief Deputy Sheriff Grosch who carried the death warrant.

Officials of the Criminal Sheriff's office went about their business with solemnity Friday morning. In turning away curious persons they were heard to tell would-be spectators, I don't see why you want to witness that; there's nothing inviting about it."

"I wan't to see that chicken fry," said one apparently blood-thirsty individual. His intended joke fell on deaff ears. He was turned away Nobody smiled.

Houston Texas

Informer-Sentinel representatives viewed Mattio's body in the coroner's morgue after the execution. Even in death his features were composed although he appeared years older. To his undershirt was pinned a Sacred Heart scapular and about his neck were several medals on a silver chain which burned into his flesh during the execution. His head was seared at the sides and front, and his left leg was drawn up.

'His people have no money," the coroner told Informer-Sentinel reporters. "It is likely that the city will bury him."

George Mattio, father of the executed youth, is serving a term in the state prison for murder, police said, and another brother is serving a term for armed robbery.

Mattio was charged with killing Mr. Cassagne when the latter sought to apprehend him as he fled from the Dixie Theatre, 1309 South Rampart street, following a disturbance of a fight between Mattio and Earl Silket, 1308 South Rampart street.

Mr. Cassagne, co-leader of the Second Ward, was stabbed fatally.

Four other condemned men occupy the death cells, it was noted. They are Joseph Besser, Wilbert Powell, both convicted of killing a white woman during a holdup; Edward Brown, convicted of murdering Milton Hayes; and Robert Davis, white, convicted of murdering another white person.

Mississippi Youth Sentenced Again To Hang

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

LAUREL, Miss.— (SNS)— Having been saved twice from the electric chair by decisions of the Supreme court, Willie McGee, 33, accused of criminally attacking a white woman, was retried and convicted of the alleged crime. New date of execution is set for April 9.

McGee's death sentence had twice been voided by the Supreme Court on the grounds that Negroes had been excluded from serving on the grand jury. Wed. 3-18-48

Prior to the last conviction which resulted Saturday night, three Negroes served on the grand jury that indicted McGee.

NEGRO IS EXECUTED FOR TRIPLE SLAYING

The Times-Picayune

(The Associated Press)

Meridian, Miss., May 21.—The state of Mississippi cut through red tape today and electrocuted James Luke Wilson, Negro slayer of a Negro family of three.

A series of gubernatorial reprieves had saved Wilson for a year after the supreme court ordered him to die in May of 1947.

When a reprieve expired last Friday, Sheriff M. E. Gibson refused to carry out the execution without a new death warrant. The Negro's attorneys claimed that without a new warrant the execution would be illegal, he said.

Gov. Fielding L. Wright issued another reprieve to gain time to look into the matter. Yesterday Sheriff Gibson received a ruling from Attorney General Greek L. Rice that the original mandate of the supreme court became effective on the expiration of the reprieve. New Orleans, La.

Wilson was strapped in the state's portable electric chair at 12:16 a. m. At 12:17 a. m., two doctors pronounced him dead.

The Negro had no hope last night for another reprieve. Sat.

Wilson was convicted of the fatal shooting of Sherman Harper, Negro, Harper's wife and child during an argument as Harper took him home to prevent his being arrested on a drunkenness charge. 5-22-48

NO ELECTROCUTION 'TIL WRIGHT ORDERS

The Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

(Special to The Times-Picayune)

Meridian, Miss., May 18.—Unless a legal warrant is received from the governor, Sheriff M. E. Gibson today said he will not permit the electrocution of James Luke Wilson Friday morning for the slaying of three Negroes near Savoy in 1946.

"I will not permit the electrocution without it," he asserted after stating a warrant has not yet been received.

In a writ staying Wilson's electrocution from last Saturday morning to Friday, Governor Wright indicated it was his opinion the original supreme court directive still is effective. It ordered Wilson's electrocution in May of last year. 5-19-48

Sentenced to Life Thanksgiving Day

(The Associated Press)

Jackson, Miss., Nov. 26.—Circuit Judge Hugh B. Gillespie on Thanksgiving Day sentenced C. P. McGee, Negro, to serve a life term for the slaying of Bobbie Booker, a white man on Christmas Day.

The Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.
Sat. 11-27-48

Booker, operator of a night club for Negroes, died a few hours after he had been shot and wounded in his place of business December 25, 1947.

McGee was convicted by a white jury.

After passing sentence yesterday, Judge Gillespie said:

"I hope that no one will misunderstand when I say that, on this Thanksgiving Day, you have as much to be thankful for as any man I know."

NEGRO'S TERM SUSPENDED

Phineas Hilliard Thwarted In Escape Of Another

JACKSON, Miss., Dec. 7.—Governor Wright Tuesday announced that Phineas Hilliard, 30-year-old negro serving a life term for murder in the state penitentiary, has been granted an indefinite suspension of sentence. Wed. 12-8-48

The clemency was recommended by the parole board and officers of Lawrence County where Hilliard was sentenced in 1939.

Hilliard, a trusty at the penitentiary, recently thwarted the escape of another convict by shooting him twice when the man advanced on him with a knife, the Governor said. Wed. 12-8-48

DEATH IS PENALTY IN POLICE KILLING

The Times Picayune
New Orleans La.

(The Associated Press)

Kansas City, Dec. 9.—A circuit court jury yesterday convicted George O. Bell of slaying a policeman and fixed his punishment at death.

Bell, 34, was accused of firing the first shot in a gun fight in which four patrolmen and two other persons were killed September 20.

Fri 12-10-48

The shooting occurred at an apartment house when police investigated a disturbance complaint against Bell an dhis brother, William. William was killed in the fight.

12-10-48

Bell, a Negro, specifically was charged with slaying Charles Neaves, a Negro patrolman. He denied he participated in the shootings.

RALPH McGILL

Murder And a School

The Constitution

On the day the Southern Presbyterian Church Assembly adopted a resolution in Atlanta deploring the excessive crime in the South, pointing out that the large Negro population and its annual production of the Negro-murder-of-Negro revealed a failure of the church to reach the Negro population, two Negro boys, aged 14 and 16, were killed by rifle fire. Two other Negroes, not much older, were arrested and charged with the murder. Atlanta, Ga.

The older of the two boys arrested was indicted Tuesday. The younger boy was released by police. There will now follow one of two steps. An agreement, carrying a short sentence, will be presented to the jury and court. Or the jury will hear the evidence and, if the evidence is heavily in support of intent and laying in wait, will give a relatively light sentence. Tues.

The chief reason for the shocking amount of Negro crime is to be found in the habitual attitude of treating Negro murders of Negroes as "just another Negro killing." The result is bad for the whole society of white and colored. The law-abiding, Christian Negro is smeared with the reputation of violence and the whole Negro population is regarded as lawless and violent.

But this particular killing had its inception on the campus of the Washington High School for Negroes. 6-3-48

Problem Our first day's investigation, which will continue, reveals enough evidence to warrant the statement that if the present plan to enlarge Washington High School is carried out, it will be one of the worst errors of judgment the city has ever made and will be productive of violence, disorder and shame through the years ahead.

It is difficult to get at the story of Washington High School, which school seeks to care for 3,500 students and cannot do the job as it should be done. 6-3-48

It is difficult because the faction which supported former Principal Harper seeks to discredit the present principal, Cornell. The School Board states that Principal Cornell is doing a fine job. The truer statement could be that he is trying to do a fine job and is, perhaps, doing the best he can. But neither he nor any other person could do a fine job in quarters which are inadequate and with a staff which literally is overwhelmed. Every indication yet discovered supports the belief he is trying to do a good job. The School Board has used the Harper-Cornell feud as a convenient excuse.

Records There are such swarms of children there that is is not possible to keep accurate records. A check of the juvenile reports shows that many children have been out of school for days and their absence has never been noted by the school. Tardiness is the rule. The 3,500 children swamp the classrooms and throng the corridors. There is not much discipline because there can't be. Tues.

There are charges that half the faculty has grown so discouraged they no longer care or make any effort, but simply go with the current. That doesn't seem to be borne out by the facts. Admittedly there are many discouraged and frustrated. But there is evidence they would try if they could. 6-3-48.

Crowds It is folly for the School Board to insist that the school goes well and that disorder is not great. The crowded conditions, exaggerated by the fact the county sends all of its Negro high school students to the two city schools, creates the inevitable "gangs" and hoodlum acts of terrorism. The Constitution

Thrown into the school are the children from the financially well-off Negro homes, from the middle class and from the slums of "Pittsburgh" and others like that unhappy place. Atlanta

About six months ago a young Negro girl was shot through the back at the school. A few days ago three young boys were brought to the Juvenile Court for being in possesion of a stolen pistol. The city admits that two years ago it became necessary to place policemen at the school at recess and on release for the day. Police still drop by "occasionally." There also have been instances of delinquency involving vice. Things are not good there. Ga.

Reasons Most of this is due to the crowded conditions and the fact that children from slums and from vicious, criminal families are thrown into the classrooms. The situation is aggravated by the fact that most Negro mothers work and are not at home during the day to give supervision to their children. Tues.

This situation at Washington High School is one which ought to attract the best attention of the people and the School Board. There has too long been a tendency to gloss it over as just a row between the Harper-Cornell factions. 6-3-48

Also, it will be almost criminally wrong to enlarge a school already dangerously expanded. It cannot function well as it is. A larger one will be worse.

At a time when the pattern of separate schools is under attack we can best defend our system if we honestly meet it problems. A third high school for Negroes, on the South Side, is a necessity.

Equality of Justice Is a Race Issue, Too

The Courier-Journal

THE South shows up badly when crime rates are published, particularly the rate of murders. But the South always has a ready explanation. Southerners are given to shrugging off the record by saying casually that it is due to the large number of Negroes among them. Louisville, Ky.

But this is no answer at all. If it tells anything, it betrays the real causes of racial conflicts, misunderstandings and tensions. It tells where the South's special problem lies, reveals the roots of that problem to be imbedded in a state of mind which accepts degradation in certain people as a fact about which nothing can be done. If this were so, the human race might as well give up, and turn the world over to the serene equality of the insects. Sat.

The state of mind involved in this answer which is no answer seems actually to find something comic in the record. A Negro kills a Negro. All the jokes about the big boy with the razor and the knucks seem to come to mind. The jurymen look lightly upon the little peccadillo without thinking of the indignity of their own action when they come out with a trivial sentence, perhaps even acquittal. 6-5-48

A forceful rebuke for this attitude—the attitude, it seems to us, which poses the greatest difficulty—was given Thursday in Criminal Court by CHARLES W. ANDERSON, Jr., Mr. ANDERSON, an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, and himself a Negro, was asking a jury to apply the limit of the law to a Negro being tried for manslaughter in killing another Negro.

Mr. ANDERSON, we think, was saying several things. One was that where there is no recognition of responsibility of man to his neighbor, of man as a citizen in a community, there will be no responsibility and no citizenship. The community will be a poorer community. Another point was that the record is not alone a Negro record, but a white record as well, and the insecurity that it tells of is insecurity for both Negro and white; in short, for the community.

But the most important point of all was that the old leniency in cases like this one—the leniency that is partly jocular, partly indifferent and wholly belittling of human life—is a denial of the dignity which a race must be accorded as a natural right if it is to rise. This dignity is just as important as the other things which usually come to mind as necessary—things like better housing, better education, better health services, better standards of living.

In fact, this acknowledgement of dignity is the very first requisite, for without it the material benefits would have no meaning. Crime is born of poverty, squalor and ignorance, to be sure. But the fact that these essential seed-beds of crime are permitted to exist is first and last a result of indifference on this important point. Sat. 6-5-48

And so when Mr. ANDERSON asked punishment for one of his race as the law provides, he was asking that the Negro be admitted to a genuine equality—an equality of responsibility. There is something humiliating in the custom of trivial punishment which he opposed. It makes for degradation and for crime, because it defeats hope even more surely than do the institutions which are but reflections of it—the poll tax, for example, the old white primary, the flagrant discriminations in public services. It is not justice, but a sort of caprice, contemptuous in its real meaning. And where it leans to leniency in one case, it is just as likely, in another, to burst out in an excess of harshness. These were Mr. ANDERSON'S points; and that he won his argument, obtained a heavy but just penalty for the slayer of a Negro, is a heavy blow at a backward attitude.

13c 1948 Legal Sentence (New York)

YOUTH FOUND GUILTY OF MURDERING GIRL

A blue ribbon jury in Kings County Court found Samuel Tito Williams, 19 years old, guilty last night of first-degree murder, with a recommendation of mercy. The jury, all men, deliberated six and half hours. New York, N.Y.

Williams, who lived at 612 Rockaway Avenue, Brooklyn, went on trial Jan. 12 before Judge Louis Goldstein accused of beating fatally 15-year-old Selma Graff of 143 East Ninety-sixth Street, Brooklyn, during an attempted burglary in her house last April 20. Judge Goldstein fixed no date for the sentencing of the youth. Fri.

The defendant was apprehended five months after the murder for a series of alleged burglaries. It was during his questioning at the Liberty Avenue precinct station that he confessed the slaying after he identified, as his own, a flashlight found at the scene of the crime. 1-23-48

In reaching its decision the jury had to consider a charge, by the defense, that the confession was obtained by the police under duress. During the trial the only eyewitness to the slaying, the victim's 10-year-old brother, Donald, identified the intruder as a white man, but later he said he was "all mixed up."

13c 1948

Legal Sentence (North Carolina)

NC Negro Dies In Lethal Cell For Murder

Record

13c

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 2—(UP)—A 20-year-old Negro died at 10:14 a. m. today as 1948's first victim of the North Carolina gas chamber, despite a last-minute attempt to blame the axe murder of a cab driver on someone else. Fri.

Frank Black, who was convicted of chopping Kinston cab driver William Lester Corey to death a few hours after completing a prison term for larceny, pointed through the double glass window of the gas chamber as he was being strapped into the death chair.

Prison officials said he pointed at witnesses and said, "That fellow there knows Julius. So if there's any more murders down there, he'll know who did them." 1-2-48

Authorities said they did not know which witness he designated.

Black entered the gas chamber at 10:04 and died in nine and one-half minutes. Columbia S. C.

He appeared nervous as he entered the tiny, brightly-lit room. He looked at the ceiling, peered through the glass and pointed as attendants strapped his hands down.

13c

One witness said, "Step up there, Charlie, and let him see you."

Charles Taylor, owner of the barbershop where Black had worked as a shoe-shine boy, said he thought the prisoner was looking at him. He described Black as "bright, well-mannered and polite with a mean streak." Record

Black, by prison custom, led worship services on death row last night and directed the doomed men in singing spirituals before he took his last walk down the gloomy gray corridor. Columbia S. C.

He ate a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon and blackberry jam.

13c 1948

Legal Sentence (Oregon)

Negro Framed by FBI Doomed to Die Today

13c L. Sent. (Oregon)

By Art Shields Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Fri 1-23-48

The FBI is not personally turning the gas on in the death chamber at Salem, Ore., where Wardell H. Henderson, Negro staff Sergeant in the invasion of Kiska in the Aleutians, is doomed to die today. The prison guards do the actual killing. But FBI men and military police beat Henderson.

branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who represented the defendant as a friend of the court. Daily Worker

APPEAL TO GOVERNOR

Veterans organizations and the Sivil Rights Congress, the Daily Worker and many Oregon organizations have joined in appeals to Governor John Hall to stop the death march. 13c

"The chairman of the Portland area of the American Veterans Committee wired the governor (John Hall) that the execution would being disgrace on his and Oregon," said Attorney Goodman's wire.

"The local secretary of the (Negro) Urban League wired that the execution was tantamount to a lynching," the attorney also reported. New York N.Y.

Wide interest has been aroused in the young veteran's case since Henderson's moving story, entitled **I Am Next**, appeared in **The Shadows**, Oregon penitentiary journal, in October, 1946. Fri 1-23-48

This story, which was reprinted in The Worker of Oct. 20, that year, is a Negro worker's **Ballad of Reading Gaol** in prose, which came right out of his heart. It tells how he heard a white man laughing that Henderson was "next" as his fellow prisoner, **Kenney Bailey**, was being cursed and threatened him with death until he "confessed" to killing a white man, says the 25-year old Negro veteran, who is preparing to walk the last mile tomorrow.

He let the FBI write his "confession" in Philadelphia in January 1946, two years ago, when M.P.'s kept taking him out of the "hole" in the military prison for questioning and beatings.

JURORS WIRE CRC

He finally cracked up. Daily Worker

"There is no sense in me telling you anything; anything you put down I will sign it," he told his FBI tormenters at last.

"If they said I'd robbed a bank I would have signed it to keep them from doing what they did," he told the federal trial court in Portland, Ore., in testimony recorded in a brief to the state supreme court. Fri. 1-23-48

The Oregon gas chamber has a Jimcrow odor today. No white men, convicted of murder, were executed last year. New York, N.Y.

"The foreman of the trial juror and another juror, have just signed affidavits . . . jurors [illegible] death penalty solely because Henderson Negro," says a wire just received by the Civil Rights Congress of 205 E. 42 S., New York, from Irving Goodman, attorney for the Portland taken out to die.

"In my country (he was raised in Winston Salem, N. C.), us Negros soon learn to know that what the boss man says is the thing that is right," Henderson's story continues. New York, N.Y.

But he knows that right didn't prevail when the M.P.'s kicked him when he was down, nor when the FBI men knocked him about, or when they took his blanket away in the "hole" to make him talk. 1-23-48

"Wardell Henderson's crime seems to be his having born a poor man with a black skin," said a footnote to his story by Staff Editor Supree Poe of THE SHADOWS, another prison inmate.

Henderson, a former tobacco worker, had never been in court in his life before. He had an honorable war record for three and a half years until he went AWOL in early 1945. He married after that and worked in the Electric Steel Foundry in Portland, where he became a sub-foreman.

His foreman, his personnel manager and an old worker testified to his model behavior.

But on Christmas Eve, 1945, Henderson had too much to drink. He doesn't remember what happened, except that he had a quarrel with another Negro, who owed him money, and went riding in a car with two servicemen. Daily Worker

He ended up in Philadelphia, and went to see his mother there. And on the last night of the year he turned himself in to the Army in Philadelphia as an AWOL.

He did not know, he said that a Portland white man, Walter Pools, had been killed at about the time he left town. He had never heard of him, he said. Nor could he explain clearly how he happened to have some jewelry that allegedly belonged to Poole. New York, N.Y.

But the FBI couldn't explain the matter either. There was no possibility of a conviction without a "confession," said the appeal briefs to the state supreme court, which were later turned down. 1-23-48

He cracked up after four days of questioning and torture when an MP sergeant said he'd be a "dead Negro" by morning. 13c

A typical scene in the long third degree is reported by Henderson in his trial testimony. New York

"Sims (FBI agent) said: 'We don't have to mess around here, and what he was unable to tell Mr. (Earl) Wilson (FBI agent) would put in." Daily Worker

"'We don't have to fool with you today, all you do is lie'," Wilson cut in. "'All you do is lie. I should kick your teeth in'." 1-23-48

Those are the circumstances under which the allegedly "voluntary confession" was given.

'I Was a Negro, So They Killed Me'

Daily Worker

By Art Shields New York, N.Y. Wed. 1-28-48

The last written words of Wardell Henderson, 25, Negro veteran, who died in a gas chamber in Salem, Ore., this last weekend, will haunt FBI men for some time. **"You got to be white before you can consider yourself an American," wrote the former staff sergeant in the invasion of Kiska, before he walked the last mile.**

"They just convicted me because of my race," wrote Henderson in a letter intended to be read after he was dead.

He had earlier told how **FBI** men and military police had abused him as a "lying N——" and beaten him for four days at a military station in Philadelphia until he signed the "confession" they drafted.

The FBI "confession" said that Henderson had killed a white man, Walter Poole, in Portland on Christmas Eve, 1945.

MANY PROTESTS

The case was so raw, however, that Republican Gov. John Hall was flooded with wires to save Henderson's life, after the state Supreme Court had rejected appeals.

Many prominent citizens joined Negro and people's organizations in demanding the halting of the execution. Portland newspapers questioned the judge's decision. And the foreman of the jury made an affidavit that he voted the death penalty because Henderson was black. Daily Worker

But Gov. Hall refused mercy with a stony-cold statement last week. And the Negro veteran walked to his death, after refusing breakfast, with the simple oral statement that—

"I never killed a man in my life and I received a raw deal."

His last written words are found in a penciled letter to his friend and lawyer, Irvin Goodman, who transmitted it later to the Civil Rights Congress in New York.

'KILLED A NEGRO' New York, N.Y.

"I have lived in America for 25 years, not as an American, but as a Negro," wrote Henderson.

"Just between you and I, you see, Negroes are not called Americans. You got to be white before you can consider yourself as an American. . Wed. 1-28-48

"I knew all the time the jury was prejudiced." The foreman of the jury said some of the jury did not like Negroes, and that Negroes should go back where they came from. So the jury made up their mind to kill, not only me, but any Negro that came before them for justice.

"They also said the Negro population was increasing so fast that some day the Negroes would overrun the white race and have the white race living under the same conditions that the Negroes are living under today. Wed. 1-28-48

"They didn't look at the case after they saw I was a Negro.

"BECAUSE OF MY RACE"

"They just convicted me because of my race.

"I went into the courtroom and looked at all of the white people [no Negroes on the jury] and I knew then and there that I was going to be framed because of my race. I looked back into the courtroom and everything was white. . . .

"I would like to know how a white would feel if he had to face an all-Negro court when he stood accused of doing something to a Negro? N.Y.

"Negroes do not like race discrimination. We only ask to be equal. The Americans got a lot to learn about discrimination. Daily Worker

"Racial discrimination was the cause of the Americans being kicked out of Panama City. Until Americans learn what racial discrimination is going to cost them there is never going to be peace.

"Now back to that woman called Justice. She doesn't care how much money a Negro has, she will not talk to him. She says if a Negro wants justice he got to go somewhere else to get it because she can't give him justice in America. The people couldn't only put a rag over her eyes but would put a rope around her neck and hang her from the highest tree in the land." 13c

Henderson, a former tobacco worker from Winston, Salem, N. C., spent much of his time in the death cell in painting.

PAINTED IN PRISON

One of his oil paintings, reproduced in a Portland newspaper, is a warm, appealing study of a farm scene, with the farmer's home in the foreground. Daily Worker

He was also the author of a moving story for the Oregon penitentiary journal, entitled **I Am Next**, which The Worker reprinted on Oct. 20, 1946. New York, N.Y.

Gov. Hall admitted that he had received more than 100 letters and telegrams in Henderson's behalf from such groups as the Oregon Prison Association, many churches the Portland chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League, taxpayers associations, etc.

The Civil Rights Association, the American Veterans Committee and John Gates, editor of the Daily Worker, were among the groups and persons protesting. Wed 1-28-48

PRESS WORRIED

The volume of protests disturbed the conservative Portland **Oregonian** and the Portland **Journal**, which said they regretted the Governor's decision. Daily Worker

The protests show that "Portland needs to consider seriously what amounts to a vote of lack of confidence on the part of its colored people, and those who have enlisted themselves against race prejudice," said the Oregonian. New York, N.Y.

"Putting it in its broadest terms, a verdict against Henderson cannot be acecpted as unprejudiced so long as Marian Anderson does not have the privilege of any other great artist." Wed. 1-28-48

Negro Dies For 'Scared To Death' Slaying

The Record

GELLEFONTE, Pa., July 12—(AP)—A 48-year-old Philadelphia Negro died in the electric chair at Rockview prison today for the "scared-to-death" killing of Ella Wiggins.

Grant Holley showed no emotion as he walked from the death cell. Asked if he had anything to say, Holley shook his head in the negative.

Columbia, S.C.

He was convicted of shooting the 27-year-old woman to death in a taproom July 4, 1946. His attorneys contended Holley was drunk on the night of the shooting and did not mean to kill the woman.

Attorney James C. Welch said Holley heard someone in the taproom say "let's get that nigger," and that he then started shooting. "He was scared to death," Welch added.

Mon. 7-12-48

A handful observers witnessed the execution at 12:31 a. m., EST. None of Holley's relatives appeared and Deputy Warden C. C. Rhoads said the man would be buried in a potter's field grave near the prison if the body is unclaimed.

Eight hours before his death, Holley ate his last meal. It consisted of soup, cold beef, pie and coffee. He refused an offer of stationary to write a letter to relatives or friends.

10 Midwest Murders Admitted By Doomed Tacoma Slayer

The Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Sun. 1-4-48

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 3—(AP)—Undersheriff Joseph Karpach said today that Jake Bird, ax-slayer of two Tacoma women, has admitted that he murdered 10 other persons during his 20-year wanderings through the Midwest.

Bird's confessions were made in Walla Walla Penitentiary, where he is to be hanged January 16 for the ax-slaying of Mrs. Bertha Kludt here October 30. Mrs. Kludt's daughter, Beverly June, also was killed when she attempted to defend her mother.

Karpach's list of Bird's admitted crimes included:.

Harvey Boyd, 8, at East Omaha, Iowa, in June, 1928, for which Clarence Lukehart has served 19 years of a life sentence in the Iowa Penitentiary. The Courier Journal

J. W. Blackman, Omaha, November 18, 1928. Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Waldo Resso and her sister, Creta Brown, 19, on November 19, 1928. On November 21 Bird attempted to murder Harold Stribling in Carter Lake, Iowa, a suburb of Omaha, for which he was convicted and served 12 years in the Iowa Penitentiary.

Alta Fulkerson, 36, Highland Park, Ill., on June 24, 1942. Sun

An unidentified retired railroad watchman, his wife, and their 18-year-old son, at South Bend, Ind., in September, 1942.

Mrs. Marie Manners, 81, at Pueblo, Col., on October 1, 1947.

An unnamed man in Ogden, Utah, on October 6, 1947. 1-4-48

The 45-year-old Negro transient indicated he had further disclosures to make, Karpach said.

Court To Hear Appeal For Execution Stay

The News
Birmingham, Ala.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 15—(AP)—The State Supreme Court agreed yesterday to hear an appeal for a stay of execution sought by counsel for Jake Bird, convicted Negro ax slayer, on Thursday, less than 16 hours before his scheduled hanging at the state prison.

Bird, whose lengthy trial of crime grew today to a list of 44 murders he said he had committed or could "clear up," is scheduled to go to the gallows at the Walla Walla Prison shortly after midnight Thursday. Eleven of the slayings have been confirmed. 1-15-48

The court issued an order upon Prison Warden Tom Smith today to show cause at 9 a.m. Thursday why Bird should not be granted a writ of habeas corpus.

Two Brothers To Go To Chair For Taxicab Holdup

Atlanta Daily World
Tues 6-15-48

WASHINGTON —(ANP)— Two brothers, George and Lawrence Garner, will be sentenced to death in the electric chair for the holdup murder in February of Howard Jones a taxi driver.

Atlanta, Ga.

The Holdup netted the brothers $4 and a tell-tale wristwatch which clinched their conviction. It took the jury only 40 minutes to find the slayers guilty of murder.

It was on the night of Feb. 27, that the brothers hailed Jones' cab and ordered him to drive them to a southwest Washington address. In a sparsely settled area near railroad yards, they ordered Jones to stop his cab. Then they held him up, took $4 and his watch and then shot him as he begged for mercy.

About an hour prior to this time, it is alleged that they also held up and murdered another cab driver, James Hardy, in the same section of the city.

The brothers seemed listless as their vardict was reported by the jury foreman, The courtroom had been cleared of casual spectators to avoid a demonstration. Scores of cab drivers were among the spectators who were asked to vacate the room prior to the verdict.

The cabbies had come to hear the verdict. Hundreds were present when the brothers were indicted. They jeered the killers. The judge feared a recurrence of such a demonstration.

Both George and Lawrence sat without apparent emotion while the verdict was read. The decision carries a mandatory sentence of death by electrocution.

Negroes Seek Deaths Probed

Montgomery Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM — (AP) — Protesting Negro groups here asked Tuesday for new investigations of the slaying of six Negroes by arresting officers in this county since March 27.

They asserted Negroes here "are greatly alarmed, incensed and gripped with almost paralyzing fear" because of the slayings and other racial incidents.

The investigation request was made in a petition to Gov. James E. Folsom and other state and county officials. The petition was signed by representatives of 66 Negro organizations. They formed the Negro Citizens Defense Committee of Birmingham.

The committee asked to be informed of new investigations, and to be allowed to present evidence. Wed. 6-16-48

In each of the six cases listed, the coroner's verdict was "justifiable homicide."

There was no immediate comment from Gov. Folsom at Montgomery. Police Commissioner Connor of Birmingham, where three of the Negroes were slain, said each case has been investigated and his evidence agreed with the coroner's verdict.

Sheriff Holt McDowell said county deputies were involved in one of the six cases, and that the slain Negro—Lott Vergas —was killed immediately after he shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Dewey Rickles on March 29.

In addition to Vergas, the Negroes killed were:

Ike Madden, 27, Birmingham, March 27; John Johnson, Birmingham, March 29; Marion Franklin Noble, 19, Birmingham, April 27; John Ward, 37, Bessemer, April 30; Dave Wilson, 50, Flat Creek, May 8. 6-16-48

Hit Slaying Of Another Negro Worker

The Worker

6-27-48

BIRMINGHAM. — Coal miners for six large TCI (US Steel) mines staged a two-day strike in protest against the police killing of a Negro miner on June 5.

The mines were shut down almost 90 percent in the first spontaneous public demonstration against the mounting number of police killings of Negro citizens. The brutal score has now reached 10 within the past few weeks.

The victim of the latest police attack was the Rev. C. I. Butler, age 53. He worked in the Edgewater coal mine, and had been pastor of the First Baptist Church in Ensley. He was the father of 13 children. 6-27-48

The usual threadbare and fantastic excuses were given for the killing—that Rev. Butler had been reportedly "molesting a white girl," and that he shot at an officer "while resisting arrest." His brother stated that the minister-coal miner had never been known to carry a pistol in his life.

Inquiries Asked Here In Deaths Of Six Negroes

Birmingham News

Birmingham, Ala.

Series Of Reports Requested On Those Killed By Officers

Jul. 6-15-48

Investigation of the deaths of six Negroes killed by peace officers of Birmingham and Jefferson County was asked today by the Negro Citizens Defense Committee of Birmingham.

The committee is a joint organization composed of committees representing 66 religious, civic, social, fraternal and welfare organizations in Jefferson County.

* * *

THE JOINT COMMITTEE today made public petitions asking:

1. Gov. James E. Folsom and Atty. Gen. A. A. Carmichael to investigate deaths of the six Negroes killed in the past 60 days.

2. Jefferson County Coroner Joe L. Hilderbrand, Solicitor Emmett Perry and Presiding Judge J. Russell McElroy to authorize a coroner's inquest into each of the six deaths. 6-15-48

3. The Jefferson County Grand Jury to investigate "the appalling number of homicides committed by peace officers in the supposed process of arrests.

4. The Grand Jury to investigate "methods, practices and policies" of Birmingham police officers and county peace officers "to determine if crimes are being committed by said officers."

5. County and municipal authorities throughout Jefferson County to "employ all moral and legal means at their disposal . . . to prevent homicides by peace officers" making arrests. 6-15-48

6. Investigation be made of the bombing of Negro homes. The petition stated the residence of Samuel Matthews, Negro, of 120 11th Court, West, was destroyed by a bomb Aug. 18, 1947.

THE PETITION ADDED that 'two incidents have occurred in the ast 60 days in which Negro homes n Jefferson County have been bombed."

The petition further stated that "on numerous occasions Negro citizens . . . have been accosted on the streets of Birmingham by members of the Birmingham police and that . . . buttons or emblems of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have been snatched from their clothing by said officers.

"The Negro victims were injustly insulted, abused and in at least one instance struck with a club by an officer," the petition continued. 6-15-48

The homicides listed by the petition were those of Ike Madden, 27, in Birmingham, March 27; John Johnson, 50, in Birmingham, March 29; Marion Franklin Noble, 19, Birmingham, April 27; Lott Vergas, 50, Morris, Ala., March 29; John Ward, 37, Bessemer, April 30; Dave Wilson, 50, Flat Creek, Ala., May 8.

No coroner's inquest has been held in any of these deaths, the petition declared, and added:

"This committee is informed and believes that all of the instances, even during the last 60 days, in which Negroes have been killed by peace officers . . . have not been reported."

* * *

THE PETITION STATED that "the Ku Klux Klan and allied or similar organizations are actually securing members and workers and organizing to further harass and intimidate Negroes of this area; that recently advertisements for members or workers for the KKK have appeared in daily newspapers in this area, and that threats have been received by many Negroes indicating the active operation of such organizations, all of which increase the fears and feeling of insecurity of Negro citizens of this area. 6-15-48

Copies of the petition were sent to state, county and city officials.

Ask Gov. Folsom Probe Cops Who Killed Negroes

Daily Worker: New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 16 (UP).—Gov. James E. Folsom today was called on to protect Birmingham Negroes from the Ku Klux Klan, and a Negro group demanded investigation of the deaths of six Negroes within 60 days at the hands of police. The Negro Citizens Defense Committee addressed a petition to Folsom, state attorney general A. A. Carmichael and local authorities.

It said the Klan and "allied or similar" organizations are "actually securing members and workers and organizing to further harass and intimidate the Negroes of this area." Threats had been received by many Negroes, the group contended.

Last week a group of hooded and white-robed men entered a Negro Girl Scout camp near Birmingham and warned two white instructors to leave. The camp was broken up the next day. Thu. 6-17-48

The organization said that "Negro citizens are greatly alarmed, incensed and gripped with almost paralyzing fears due to the apparent failure or inability of peace officers . . . to render any appreciable or effective protection to the Negro citizens of the county."

Police Bullets Cut Down Ninth Negro Victim

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS) —Police pistols cut down their ninth Negro victim in 156 days in the Birmingham area Wednesday night August 11, when twenty-six-year-old Joe W. Perkins was allegedly slain by Police Officers S. C Newsome and W. J. Stephens.

Authorities investigating said that Perkins, whose address was listed as 4234 First Avenue, North was found inside the premises of the Alabama Machinery Company, 107 First Avenue, North. They added that police had been notified of a forcible entrance.

Perkins was allegedly picked up on the inside, handed over to detectives outside the company gates where he is said to have tried to break away. Police bullets riddled him dead in the escape attempt, it was said.

Young Girl Sees Face At Window, Phones Police

Birmingham Ala.

Beverly Lysaught, 4-Year-Old Brother Were Alone In Home

Sat. 12-11-48

A 19-year-old Negro prowler was shot to death in East Lake last night.

Three Birmingham police officers fired at the Negro as he attempted to flee from a house at 510 North 87th Street.

The Negro was identified as Theris Rudolph Wood, 19, of 8708 7th Avenue, North. The three officers who fired at him as he ran were H. W. Brewer, J. A. Hale, and J. M. Lawson.

Officers said they did not know which shots found their mark.

Two children were in the home at the time. Beverly Lysaught, 15, and Orville Lysaught, 4, the children of Lt. Col. and Mrs. O. D. Lysaught, were alone in the house while their parents were visiting in West End.

* * *

THE 15-YEAR-OLD GIRL told Detectives M. O. Thorn and G. V. Evans she heard a noise on the front porch shortly before 11 o'clock last night. She went back to her bedroom and peered out the window. She said she stared into the face of a Negro.

The man apparently did not see her. She calmly walked to the hall and phoned police headquarters.

Seconds later, a radio patrol car at First Avenue and 75th Street, North, was notified. The police car spend to the scene.

Officers said they found the Negro trying to get into the house through the girl's bedroom window. Sat. 12. 11-48

Detectives Lt. Charles L. Pierce said the officers ordered the Negro to halt, and when he continued to run they fired.

The girl was commended by police for her coolness and courage in easing the shade and notifying police without giving an alarm to frighten away the intruder.

Police Bullets Cut Down Retired Baptist Minister

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)—

Police bullets last Saturday morning cut down a 53-year-old retired Baptist minister who dug coal for a living to ring up the eighth Negro citizen killed by police in the Birmingham area within 10 days in Jefferson County.

The latest victim was the Rev. C. L. Butler, age about 53, who two years ago pastored the First Baptist Church of Gary-Ensley. He worked in the Edgewater Coal Mine and lived on Route 6 in the community known as Capstown. He has 13 children, the oldest over 30 years.

Wed 6-16-48

But the story carried in the Birmingham News, June 5, described the victim as a "young Negro" and charged that he was killed in the presence of four officers after he "drew a pistol" when the officers sought to investigate a complaint that he had been "molesting a young Edgewater girl."

Puru Butler, brother of the slain minister, said that Rev. Butler never in his life carried a pistol. He further asserted that he did not know the facts in his brother's death. The NAACP said that it could not furnish any facts but that a member of its executive committee had been conducting an investigation. The slain man's brother is an Ensley barber.

The account of the tragedy told by Chief Deputy Clyde W. Morris of the Bessemer Cut-off said that after several complaints had been received at the office that a man had been hanging around the girl's home several mornings molesting her, four officers were dispatched to investigate. They went to the girl's home, Deputy Morris' account said, and about 6 a. m. the minister appeared. He said that when the officers sought to question the miner-minister, "the Negro drew a pistol. The Negro was then shot," the account reported in the NEWS said.

Wed. 6-16-48

The NEWS added: "Officers present at the shooting were Sheriff's Deputies Robert Sounders and J. W. Thompson from Bessemer and Special Officers Paul Thomas and J. W Vanderford, of Edgewater.'

Miners at Edgewater, at Docena Short Creek and Wylam were away from their jobs as a result of the slaying.

Victim Was [illegible] Accused Of Annoying Girl

Argus St. Louis Mo.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 8—(Special)—Miners in the pits of the major coal fields of the state walked out Monday. The work stoppage followed the slaying of C. L. Butler, 34-year-old Negro miner, by county deputies. The miner was killed Monday and more than one-half of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Co.'s 4,500 coal miners were idle Tuesday in a protest over the slaying. TCI's six big coal mines were closed.

Fri 6-11-48

James H. Terry, United Mine Workers' representative, said the miners were incensed by the murder of their fellow-worker and demanded action against the officials in what they termed a "wanton" killing.

Butler had been accused by a 13-year-old white girl of annoying her each morning when he went by her home to work. Deputies were sent from the Bessemer sheriff's offices to question him. He was shot down at his home.

Fri. 6-11-48

Chief Deputy Clyde Morris claimed that when officers approached Butler, he pulled a pistol from his shirt and one of them shot him.

Birmingham Police Kill Negro Suspect And Wound Another

Montgomery Advertiser

Thur. 12-30-48

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 29—(AP)—Birmingham police shot a Negro to death and wounded another critically early today.

Detective Lt. C. L. Pierce said officers were attempting to arrest the Negroes on burglary charges.

Montgomery Ala

Robert James, 21, was wounded fatally as he sought to escape two officers investigating the theft of two cases of soft drinks from a Northside stand, Pierce said.

Patrolman C. L. Tucker and W. A. Holland said they both fired when James broke from them and refused to halt. The Negro was hit twice in the right side and once in the head.

Leon Zuber, 27, was wounded seriously near a cleaning plant a few blocks from the downtown shopping district. Patrolman E. L. Lewis said he saw Zuber coming from the plant.

Lewis said he ordered the Negro to stop and then fired when the man continued running. Zuber's condition was listed as critical at a Birmingham hospital.

Negro Must Face Trial For Old Murder Charge

Montgomery Advertiser Montgomery Alabama

Sat-11-27-48

EUTAW, ALA., Nov. 26.—(AP)—The record Willis Coleman made as an honest, hard-working Negro during 20 years of freedom apparently will not spare him from trial on an old murder charge.

Greene County Sheriff A. F. Lee said today "there's nothing I can do but hold him for trial" at the April, 1949, term of circuit court. He said Coleman, now 56, was indicted on a charge of murdering another Negro but escaped while on bond in 1928.

He was returned to Alabama authorities at Tallulah, La., last week.

When court convenes, Sheriff Lee said, "it's up to the judge to decide" what happens to Coleman. Meanwhile, the officer added, the Negro also is being held for Arkansas authorities, who want him for a prison break in 1927.

After Coleman was arrested in Louisiana, Sheriff C. E. Hester of Madison Parish said the Negro moved into that area 16 years ago under the name of Frank Hunter, bought a 65-acre farm on credit and paid it off through hard work. He reared a family and earned the respect of both races in his neighborhood.

Sat-11-27-48

Negro In Birmingham Is Shot By Policeman

Montgomery Advertiser Montgomery Ala.

BIRMINGHAM— (AP)—A Negro was wounded Saturday by a Birmingham policeman, who then charged the wounded man with robbery and carrying a pistol.

Mon. 6-21-48

The Negro was identified as Edward L. Houston, 21. He was shot in the leg by Patrolman J. A. Cooper. The officer's written report said Houston had a pistol in his hand.

Coroner Joe Hilderbrand returned a verdict of justifiable homicide Saturday in the slaying of Willie Mack, Negro, here Thursday night. Mack was shot by officers seeking to arrest him on a burglary charge.

The Negro Citizens Defense Committee of Birmingham has asked an investigation of Negro slayings by officers. Mack was the eighth Negro killed in this county since March 27 by law enforcement officers.

The Post Box

Killing Of Prowler Called Horrifying

Birmingham Post

In your edition of Dec. 11, you carried on your front page a story concerning a prowler who was shot to death by three policemen. I should like to call your attention to the following facts:

1. The prowler, identified as a 19-year-old Negro, had, according to your story, molested neither person nor property. At worst, he was trespassing, and deserved no more than detention and questioning.

Birmingham, Alabama

2. You do not say that he was resisting arrest, nor that he was armed; yet three policemen opened fire upon him, apparently at sight.

3. You do not mention that any investigation is being made of the action of the policemen involved.

Thur-11-30-48

As a Northern-born person now a resident of Alabama, I should like to point out that it is instances like this that lay the South open to bitter criticism from the North. It does not require a "Yankee agitator" to perceive that a person has been killed for an uninvestigated action that may or may not have been criminal in intent. This, I think, is called murder.

I should like to suggest that you censure the three policemen in the case, or even more to the point, censure the higher authority in the Police Department that allows such irresponsible behavior. Don't you think that the attitude that where Negroes are concerned, justice is unimportant, has gone on long enough?

The results of the recent trial in Wetumpka will not have much effect in convincing the people of the rest of the nation that Southerners can, after all, manage the local administration of justice with fairness toward both races when police officials in Southern cities are allowed to go uncensured after committing an act of murder. I know as a fact that policemen have been dropped from the force of at least two Northern cities for unprovoked slayings of this sort. The frontier attitude of "shoot first and ask questions afterward" is not one that belongs in a civilized community—and I had believed that Birmingham was such.

Thur-11-30-48

I quite sincerely feel that this story is one of the most horrifying I have ever read. Most horrifying was that you did not in your editorial columns offer any comment whatsoever, and that your reportage contained a definite note of implicit approval. All I can see is that a person—and whether he was white or Negro is immaterial, you know—is dead now because the police were too careless of their responsibilities to remember that what he was doing would at worst, merit only a brief detention.

Thur-11-30-48

Perhaps this sort of police attitude is supposed to make us white folks feel protected. It makes me feel as if I have been turned among a group of killers allowed to run free. If licensed murder is among the prerogatives of the Police Department in Birmingham, I'll take my chance without police protection.

Another Negro Killed By Police

5-5-48

BIRMINGHAM ALA.—(SNS)—The third Negro, allegedly resisting arrest, has been killed by Birmingham police within the past 21 days.

Wed. [illegible] 5-5-48

The latest victim in Almas Shaw, 42, of 817 17th St. South. He died at a local hospital about 3:15 on April 19.

Atlanta Ga

Negro Hits Officer And Coroner Sits

A policeman Monday killed a Negro who had knocked him down and fired three shots at him in an effort to avoid arrest, Detective Chief Lewis Miller said. Montgomery, Ala.

The Negro was identified as Bernard Williams, about 25. Miller said he was released from the city jail only a few weeks ago and previously had served a two-year prison term for grand larceny. The Advertiser

Patrolman J. T. Moody killed him, the chief added, when he resisted arrest on warrants charging him with stabbing two other Negroes during a night club fight Sunday night. Coroner M. B. Kirkpatrick called the shooting "justifiable homicide."

Moody and Patrolman W. C. Evans went to the Negro's house to arrest him Monday morning, Miller reported, and while getting into a police car, Williams knocked Moody down and shot at him but missed. Three bullets hit the squad car. 2-3-48

Moody returned the fire while regaining his feet, the chief added, and killed the Negro. Tues

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Courtesy Is The Key

The News

Thurs

To the Editor of The News:

The editorial of April 29, "A Time for Restraint," touched only one aspect of the problem of racial relations. This editorial pointedly intimates that the recent slaying by Birmingham policemen of three Negroes was the result of racial tension. In my opinion, it was not an inflamed hatred of the white race that prompted these Negroes to resist arrest and force these policemen to take instant and deadly action to preserve their own lives.

Those Negroes who killed Dewey Rickles, stabbed and permanently disabled Officer Nichols, disarmed and beat another policeman each acted as do men of all races and colors who are lawless and anti-social and react to legal restraint with a warped pattern of mental behavior. A white man with the same mental reactions would have murdered Dewey Rickles. Three white men activated by anti-social mental processes would have been as instantly and as justifiably slain as were the three Negroes mentioned in the editorial of April 29. Birmingham, Ala.

Courtesy is the key to racial understanding and harmony. When the members of both races begin to treat each other with courtesy in public places there will no longer be any need for segregation. Jim Crow laws were not designed to degrade the Negro, but to avoid unnecessary friction between the ignorant white and the ignorant Negro. To all men of good will an act of courtesy is not a servile act, neither is it an invitation to social fraternization. No white man of normal intelligence expects any Negro to be a cringing, servile toady, but we have the right to expect orderly, decent behavior from every person.

As imperfect as the white man's civilization is, it is still worth preserving. And when tomorrow's Negro learns to respect and revere those laws and customs of behavior that the white race has struggled for 2,000 years to attain, then tomorrow's Negro will be accorded the full equality demanded by a few Negroes of today. 5-13-48

G. L. PATTIE.

Birmingham Negroes Ask Slaying Probe

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 6-16-48

BIRMINGHAM, June 15—(AP)—Negro groups here yesterday asked State and County investigations of the slaying of six Negroes by officers in Jefferson County since March 27.

A petition, signed by representatives of 66 Negro organizations here, asked such action of Gov. James E. Folsom, Mayor Cooper Green, of Birmingham, Circuit Solicitor Emmett Perry, of Birmingham, and other officials. There was no immediate comment from officials.

The petition said "Negro citizens are greatly alarmed, incensed and gripped with almost paralyzing fears" as a result of the slayings and other incidents. Coroner's findings in each case was justifiable homicide.

The petition asserted no coroner's inquest was held in any of the cases. The committee also said it believed "all of the instances . . . in which Negroes have been killed, in the supposed process of making arrests, have not been reported." Wed

It added that "on numerous occasions Negro citizens have been accosted on the streets of Birmingham by Birmingham police . . . buttons or emblems of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People have been snatched from their clothing by said police officers." 6-16-48

Shooting Of Negro Under Investigation

The News-Age-Herald

Jefferson County Investigator Joe Hilderbrand today was investigating the shooting of a Negro, C. L. Butler, early Saturday by Bessemer and Edgewater police officers.

According to announcement by Clyde Morris, chief deputy sheriff for the Bessemer Cutoff, the Negro was shot after officers went to Edgewater to investigate complaints that a yong girl was being molested by a Negro. Birmingham, Ala.

The investigating officers, Chief Morris said, found Butler near the girl's home. When the officers sought to question him, they reported, he pulled a pistol. He was then fatally shot by the officers.

Officers present at the shooting were Sheriff's Deputies Robert Saunders and J. W. Thompson from Bessemer and Special Officers Paul Thomas and J. A. Vanderford, of Edgewater. Sun. 6-6-48

An Inquiry Is Requested

Birmingham, Ala.

The Negro Citizens Defense Committee of Birmingham is composed of representatives of 66 religious, civic, social, fraternal and welfare organizations in Jefferson County. Its membership includes responsible Negroes of the community. It is a cross-section of Negro leadership in the county. It speaks with the solid authority of the best citizens of the race. Thurs. 6-17-48

These Negroes are tremendously disturbed at the course which race relations have recently taken in Jefferson County. They fear a growing influence of the Klan mentality among certain groups of white citizens. They foresee possible future difficulties which might lead to breaches of the peace.

Up to this time the great majority of the Negroes of the community have preserved a remarkable calmness in the face of numerous incidents which might have aroused them. Most members of their race have conducted themselves with notable restraint.

* * *

Negro leaders are particularly disturbed at a series of killings by peace officers which have occurred since March of this year.

On Tuesday the newly formed Defense Committee asked state and county investigations of six such killings which it stated have happened in and near Birmingham in March, April and May.

In each case law-enforcement officers have listed the deaths as justifiable homicides. Thurs. 6-17-48

A petition urges Gov. Folsom and Atty. Gen. Carmichael to investigate these killings fully. It requests that Coroner Hilderbrand, Solicitor Perry and Judge McElroy authorize a coroner's inquest into each of the deaths. It asks that the Grand Jury inquire into "the methods, policies and activities of peace officers and other officials charged with the duty of enforcing the law" in respect to intimidation of Negroes. It requests that the Grand Jury investigate "methods, practices and policies" of Birmingham and Jefferson County officers "to determine if crimes are being committed by said officers." It asks that officials "employ all moral and legal means at their disposal . . . to prevent homicides by peace officers" in making arrests. Finally, it requests that an inquiry be made into the bombing of a Negro home last Winter.

* * *

This is a reasonable petition. Many citizens have been disturbed by these killings. So has this paper. If each killing was actually justified, an investigation will prove it so. If it was not, the public should know all the details which an inquest would reveal. The News

Primarily the petition indicates a state of mind among a large minority of our population which is unhealthful for the whole community. Negro citizens are certainly "greatly alarmed." Some of them may be "incensed." Others may be "gripped with almost paralyzing fears due to the apparent failure or inability of the peace officers" to give "appreciable or effective protection to Negro citizens." Birmingham, Ala.

It is the duty of the whole citizenry to establish and maintain harmonious relations between these two races who have to live so closely together in the South. Anything which tends to tear down such a relationship is a danger to us all. Thurs. 6-17-48

Hit Slaying Of Another Negro Worker

The Worker

New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM. —Coal miners for six large TCI (US Steel) mines staged a two-day strike in protest against the police killing of a Negro miner on June 5.

The mines were shut down almost 90 percent in the first spontaneous public demonstration against the mounting number of police killings of Negro citizens. Sun. 6-27-48 The brutal score has now reached 10 within the past few weeks.

The victim of the latest police attack was the Rev. C. I. Butler, age 53. He worked in the Edgewater coal mine, and had been pastor of the First Baptist Church in Ensley. He was the father of 13 children.

The Worker

The usual threadbare and fantastic excuses were given for the killing—that Rev. Butler had been reportedly "molesting a white girl,"

Tenth Victim For B'ham Cops

Sat. 5-8-48

13c

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Birmingham's tenth "justifiable" police-slaying of Negroes within 151 days was registered here last week.

Charles Wright, 35, was the latest victim

and that he shot at an officer "while resisting arrest." His brother stated that the minister - coal miner had never been known to carry a pistol in his life.

Investigations into the slayings are always conducted by fellow police officers.

Birmingham police are under Police Commissioner Eugene (Bull) Conner, one of the walkout delegates at the National Democratic convention. He would not let the Freedom Train exhibit in Birmingham under unsegregated arrangements. His police jailed Senator Glen Taylor for allegedly violating a jim-crow law by going through the Negro entrance of a church where the Southern Negro Youth Congress was holding its biennal convention.

Man Killed By Special Deputy

Atlanta

Daily

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)—Dave Wilson, 50, of Flat Creek was allegedly fatally shot the night of May 8 by Special Deputy Mack Alexander. Atlanta, Ga.

A finding of "justifiable homicide" was returned by Coroner Joe Hilberbrand. Fri. 5-14-48

It is said that the slain man was resisting arrest. It marked the sixth police-slaying of a Negro citizen in 41 days in the Birmingham area. One of the slain men, Lott Vergess of Morris, Alabama, had mortally wounded a deputy sheriff before he was killed.

Negro Burglar Suspect Shot Killed In Attempted Arrest

The News Birmingham, Ala

Fri 6-18-48

Two Birmingham city detectives shot and killed a Negro man last night. They said the Negro attempted to pull a gun on them when they sought to arrest him in connection with two burglaries, which had just been reported. In one of the burglaries, the night watchman was fired on several times. The News

The Negro carried Georgia State Employment and Social Security cards bearing the name Willie Mack. The officers said he had a pistol in his shirt when he was killed.

Detectives W. J. Stevens and S. C. Newsome, who shot the burglary suspect, said they identified themselves to him as police officers and called on him to halt. They said he turned and started to pull a gun from his belt. Then they opened fire. Both shot several times.

The two detectives were on special duty investigating the burglary of Maring-Crawford Motor Company, 2500 First Avenue, North, and the Infants Diaper Service, 3829 First Avenue, North. Both occurred only a few minutes before the slaying. Birmingham

L. J. Sullivan, night watchman at the motor company, told officers he was fired on four times in the dark when he surprised a burglar in the company shop. Ala

* * *

IN HIS REPORT to police, Sullivan stated he was walking through the shop about 10:40 p.m. when someone told him to stop and hold up his hands. He said the shop was dark and he was unarmed.

Mr. Sullivan said he started to run and the burglar fired four or five shots at him. Fri.

Police said the four bullets fired at Sullivan have been accounted for. Three lodged in the fire door, which separates one part of the shop from another. They were dug out and will be compared with the gun carried by the man who was killed. They said they believed the fourth bullet struck the bumper of a car in the shop and glanced off.

Sullivan said he encountered the burglar as he came to the main floor from upstairs, where he had punched the clock in his rounds.

He said he had started to investigate an open window when he was challenged by the burglar. The intruder, according to Mr. Sullivan, was in a crouched position and only the upper half of his body was visible. Sullivan said a light in the rear of the burglar made it possible for him to tell that the intruder was a Negro, had a nickel-plated pistol, wore a hat and khaki trousers. 6-18-48

WHEN HE LATER VIEWED the body of the man killed by police, Mr. Sullivan told officers: "In my opinion, that's the man."

Police said the burglar entered the building through a rear side window by use of an extension ladder. He escaped through another window at the rear of the building.

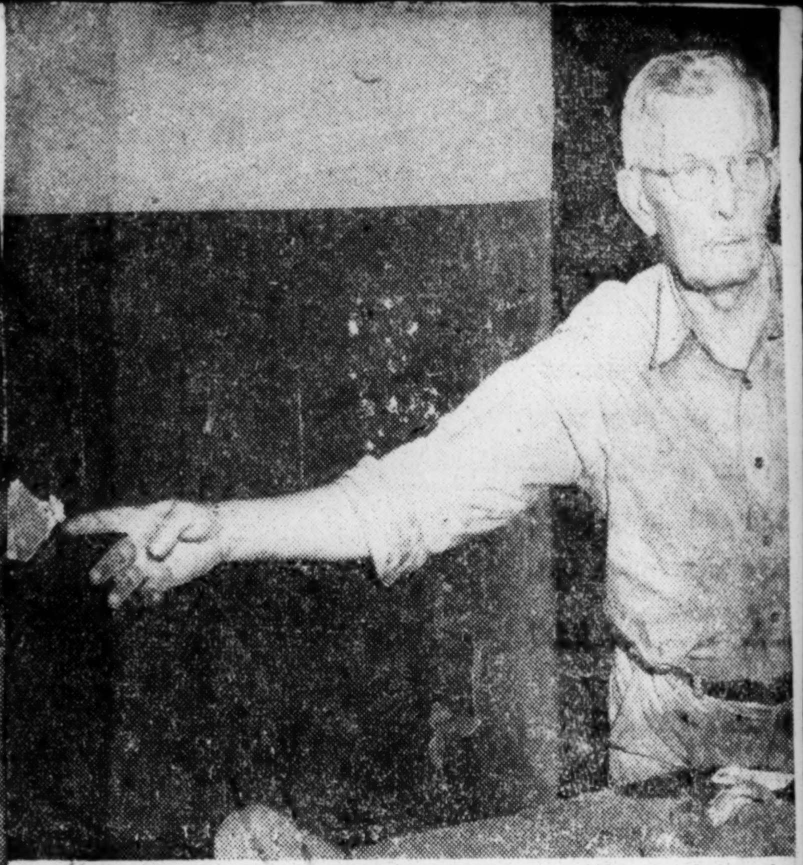
Police said they found a cash box near where Sullivan said he encountered the burglar. The box, which was kept under a counter in the showroom, had not been opened. The officers reported they were unable to obtain any fingerprints from the box.

AT THE TIME of the shooting of the burglary suspect, police also **service said she scared the burglar away and called police. Officers said this woman viewed the body of the dead man and identified him as the man who had tried to break into the diaper service plant.** Fri.

Coroner Joe L. Hilderbrand and Detectives W. J. Haley and R. A. McMurdo today continued investigating of the shooting. The coroner said this morning that he had no report to make until the investigation is completed. 6-18-48 were investigating the burglary of the Infants Diaper Service.

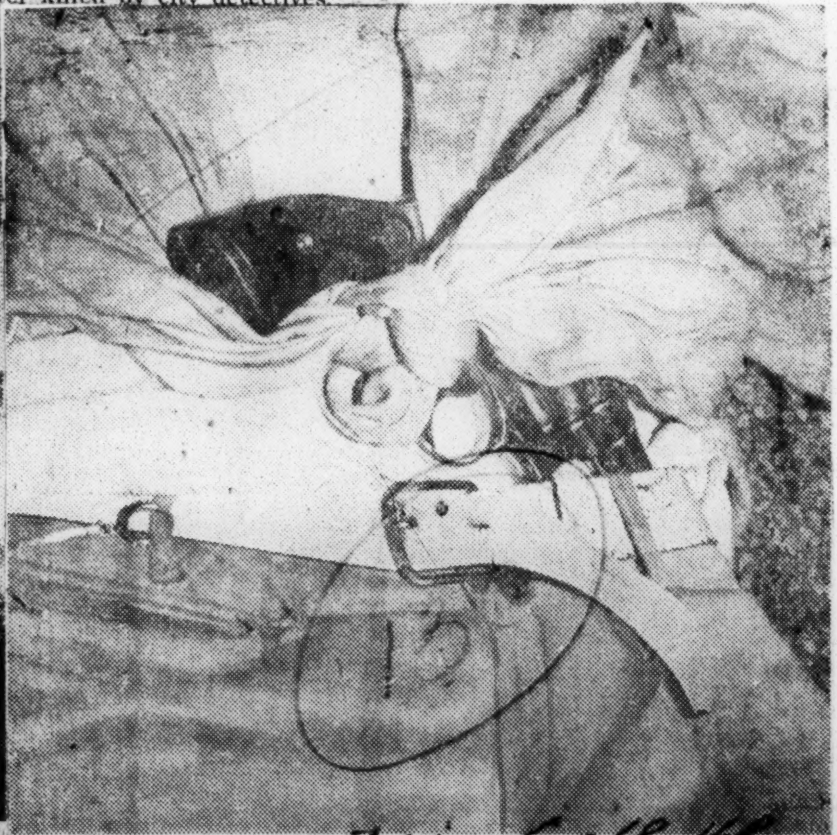
Fri 6-18-48

BURGLAR USED THESE FOR TOOLS—Officres W. H. Crook (left, above) and Ben Robinson, examine pieces of pipe used by a burglar to break into Maring-Crawford Motor Company last night. A man suspected of the burglary was later killed by city detectives.



NIGHT WATCHMAN—L. J. Sullivan (above), night watchman for Maring-Crawford Motor Company, points to one of the four bullets fired at him by a burglar last night. All shots missed. Mr. Sullivan lives at 48 Church Street, Mountain Brook. 6-18-48

SEEKING CLUES—Officers Ben Robinson (left, above) and W. H. Crook dust for fingerprints on a cash box, contents of which were believed to have been sought by a burglar at Maring-Crawford Motor Company last night. They reported they found no fingerprints. The News Birmingham, Ala.



Fri. 6-18-48

KILLED BY POLICE—The body (above) is that of a Negro suspected of burglary when he attempted to pull a gun as they sought to arrest him. They said the gun shown in his shirt was found there after his death. The News Birmingham, Ala.

Reveal Eyewitnesses to Death, Editor Told

LITTLE ROCK (ANP) — Christopher Bates, editor-publisher of the Arkansas State Press, was subpoenaed by the prosecuting attorney's office here last week to appear before its investigation of the death of James Toliver at the hands of a white police officer on Feb. 6.

The summons was issued by Prosecutor Edwin E. Dunaway, after the Press had released a story to the effect that "eyewitnesses" different from the investigators as to whether the police officer was blameless in the killing.

Officer Absolved at First

Dunaway had announced that his eyewitnesses indicated that Toliver was killed when his head struck the sidewalk after he was slapped by the bare hand of the patrolman. He held that the evidence absolved the officer of blame for the death.

Later, the State Press reported that its "eyewitnesses" stated the man had been struck by an object other than a bare hand, and that his head could not have struck the sidewalk. Bates was subpoenaed after none of the Press's witnesses appearent.

Sue LA Officials in Negro Vet Slaying

N.Y. N.Y. Daily Worker

Mon. 11-29-48

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 28.—Claims for damages amounting to $210,000 against Mayor Bowron, the police commissioner, police chief Clement Horrall and assistant Chief Joseph Reed have been filed by the widow and one brother of Herman Burns, Negro war veteran, slain by police Aug. 21, it was learned.

13c

Mrs. Virginia Burns, widow of the 28-year-old vet, asks $200,000 claiming the mayor and police officials were derelict in their duty in failing to suspend or discharge police responsible for the killing.

The court action alleges that the mayor and the police knew or "should have known" the police were "vicious and unfit to be policemen" even before the clubbing occurred and that failure to discharge or suspend them, made the officials "responsible for the wrongful death of Herman Burns."

The claim particularly mentions Clifford Davis and Willie Harrison, Negro special officers, but states that names of while police involved also are known to police officials.

At a conference with Mayor Bowron Oct. 11, Chief Reed indicated he knew all the names of plainclothes and uniformed police at the scene but said he would turn over such information to no one but the county grand jury if and when it makes an investigation.

A claim for $10,000, filed by Julius Burns, one of the two brothers of the dead man, alleges that several police and detectives beat him severely at the time his brother was clubbed to death.

Julius also was struck on the head, prior to the killing, at the LaVeda ballroom by Clifford Davis.

Julius was being carried to his car by Herman Burns and another brother, John, when Davis and other police descended upon them. John was handcuffed, while police beat Julius and Herman. Julius fell, unconscious, across his dead brother's body.

Mon. 11-29-48

Julius Burns' claim also holds police responsible for his beating by failing to discharge the police before the incident happened.

Demand Investigation Into Murder By Cops Of 28-Year-Old Worker

The Defender

Sat 9-4-48

LOS ANGELES—Complying with the demands of the NAACP and scores of citizen groups, civic and church organizations, the Los Angeles Police Commission last week began a thorough investigation into the murder of Herman M. Burns, 28 year old plasterer, and other alleged cases of brutality by trigger-happy, club-wielding policemen.

Chicago Ill

Action by the Commission followed the heated protests, blazing headlines and mass meetings throughout east Los Angeles, where Negro and Mexican residents threatened to take the law into their own hands to avenge Burns' death.

Beaten To Death

One of three brothers involved in a dance hall affray with special officers Clifford Davis and Willie Harrison, and Plainclothesmen D. P. Sellers and D. L. Waugh, Burns was beaten to death as he attempted to secure medical aid for his brother Julius, on whom special officer Harrison had inflicted a head injury a half hour or so earlier. Another brother, John 21, was jailed on the asserted charge of assault with a deadly weapon, although none of the youths were armed.

Attorney Thomas Griffith, president of the local NAACP and a handpicked committee of the community leaders conferred with Police Chief Horral and the Commission on Tuesday and was promised that a thorough investigation would not only be made into the incident but formal charges filed against all the officers.

See White Wash Attempt

Earlier in the week it was believed that the Commission was attempting to white-wash the incident when autopsy-surgeon D. Newbarr, M. D. issued a statement saying he was unable to ascertain the cause of Herman Burns' death. For this reason the inquest was still pending at press time

Burns who resided with his wife and babies, Herman 4 and Rodney 3; in one of the more exclusive settlements of the city had an irreprochable character. He was employed by the Wilson Construction Company and was said to be a good, steady worker.

Funeral services for the youth was held on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock mass in St. Thomas' Catheral, Mariposa and Pico boulevards.

Sat 9-4-48

Prior to the funeral Dr. Frank Webb performed another autospy at the request of the family but his findings were not revealed.

Laxity of the Los Angeles N. A. A, C. P. is said by citizens to be the indirect cause of police brutality against Negroes and Mexicans which has run rampant for the past three years.

Time after time it is claimed, citizens have reported such incidents to NAACP officials and were promised assistance which was never forthcoming.

Following a mass meeting of some 3000 citizens here last Wednesday evening, the local NAACP body began immediate action on the Burns case and other reported cases of police brutality.

13c 1948

Negroes by Policemen (D. C.)

Prisoner in Attack On Officer Killed

The Post

A prisoner, arrested on a drunk charge, was fatally shot by a policeman whom he attacked with a knife early yesterday.

The victim was identified as John Jackson, 29, a laborer, of 1724 8th st. nw. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Freedmen's Hospital from a bullet wound in the middle of his back.

The policeman, Pvt. Clinton F. Brown, 31, attached to the Second Precinct, was reelased in the custody of his commanding officer for appearance today at 11:30 a. m. at a coroner's inquest into Jackson's death.

Police gave this account of the shooting: Washington D.C.

Shortly after 1 a. m., a patrol wagon with Brown in charge responded to 7th and M sts. nw., where two policemen were holding Jackson. Pvts. Louis B. Anderson and Shelton H. Nuttall, both of the Second Precinct, had arrested Jackson on a drunk charge in a routine check of restaurants in the 1200 block of 7th st. nw., they said. Mon. 6-14-48

Brown placed Jackson in the patrol wagon and the driver, Pvt. William B. Whitlock, drove to the Second Precinct station at 6th st. and New York ave. nw.

When Brown ordered Jackson out of the wagon, Jackson jumped down and lunged at the policeman with an open pocket knife, Brown said. The knife cut across his badge, according to Brown. The two scuffled, Jackson broke away and started staggering toward 5th street. Mon. 6-14-48

Brown said he fired two shots from his .38 caliber service revolver after ordering Jackson to halt. The man staggered on about 50 feet and collapsed, he said. One of the bullets had entered his back and lodged in his heart, according to police. He was rushed to Freedmen's Hospital in the patrol wagon. The Post

Homicide squad detectives said an open pocket knife was found near the edge of the sidewalk where Jackson had left the patrol wagon. They said Brown's police badge showed fresh scratches.

Police records showed Jackson had been arrested several times in the last six years. He was sentenced to serve 60 days in 1943 on a charge of threats, was arrested n 1945 for being involved in a fight, and was found guilty of being drunk on three occasions. D.C.

Brown, who lives at 5301 Branch ave. se., has been a member of the police force for 5½ years.

13c 1948

Negroes by Policemen (General)

An Editorial

How About Protection From Aggression Here

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 3-28-48

TWO NEGROES, who believed their government meant it when it said that America stands for "the dignity of the individual," are dead — murdered by officials pledged to uphold the law of the land.

Roy Cyril Brooks and Samuel Bacon weren't victims of "aggressive Communism," against which our President and Attorney General have declared a Hitler-like war. They were killed in cold blood by upholders of "free enterprise" and "white supermacy."

TOM CLARK

The aggressors in this case are not separated from the jurisdiction of Tom Clark by thousands of miles; only the legal myth of "state's rights" separates them from speedy punishment.

Both the President and the Attorney-General have spoken at length about "freedom," "democracy," "dignity of the individual" and "our way of life."

These pronouncements are not worth the air it takes to utter them as long as a single Negro citizen can be killed with the full knowledge that the Federal government will plead "no jurisdiction."

The Worker

The protection of the individual's life, liberty and property is clearly a function of the Federal government. Can we do in Greece and Turkey and Italy what, patently, we have not attempted to do at home?

Mr. President and Mr. Attorney-General, here is a chance to put down an "earnest" on the program for freedom you've been spouting.

The bodies of Brooks and Bacon, in death, mock bitterly your words. Action is now needed. Punish the killers!

Protect the lives and loyalties of the Negro people against Jimcrow and white supremacist aggression!

New York, N.Y.

Sun. 3-28-48

Policeman Indicted In Trusty's Death

[illegible]

NEW ORLEANS (ANP) — A former Louisiana state patrolman was indicted by the U. S. Grand Jury last Thursday on charges of violating the civil rights statute in connection with the fatal beating of Charles D. Richardson, 36, a trusty at Baton Rouge in June.

The indictment charged that the former white officer "unlawfully, wilfully and feloniously deprived the prisoner of "the right not to be deprived of his life without due process of law."

Nov-13-15-48

According to the document on June 27, 1948, the former officer attacked Richardson without justifiable cause and with wooden club. It stated that the beating resulted in Richardson's death the next day.

The officer's job at the time was to supervise convict trusties assigned to the state police barracks at Baton Rouge.

Nov-13-15-48

Prisoner Attacks Police, Dies From Gunshot Wound

(13c) Negroes by N police

Daily World

Sat 10-23-48

A prisoner said under arrest was shot and killed on Auburn Avenue Thursday night by a Negro officer who claimed the prisoner resisted arrest and slashed him with a knife.

Patrolman Claude Dixon II said he fired on the prisoner, James Daugherty, 38, of 248 Houston St., N. E. after the latter broke from his arrest, slashed him across the wrist and continued his advance dispite orders to halt.

70

The shooting occurred around 9:30 p. m. in front of 273 Auburn Ave. Daugherty died at Grady Hospital at 3:55 a. m. Friday from a pistol wound in the stomach, reports show. Officer Dixon was treated for his knife wound and dismissed.

Atlanta Ga

According to reported statements of the officer, he had encountered Daugherty earlier in the night and warned him to go home because of his intoxicated condition. Officer Dixon said he came across Daugherty again in an Auburn Avenue restaurant and placed him under arrest when he observed he was in a stupor.

REFUSED TO HALT

Once they reached the outside of the restaurant, Officer Dixon said Daugherty broke from his grasp cursed him and slashed at him wth a knife. By throwing up his left hand, the officer said he was able to somewhat parry the blow which slashed his wrist. According to the officer, he shot the unruly prisoner when he persisted in his knife attack.

The restaurant operator reportedly told Detective J. W. Ellington that the deceased had come into his place for a purchase and was requested by him to move from the counter where he had fallen asleep Daugherty moved to a chair in the establishment where he fell asleep again, the operator was quoted as saying.

Sat 10-23-48

A resident of Strong Street, who identified himself as a witness to the shooting, corroborated Officer Dixon's account of the slaying.

Daugherty's shooting marked the second shooting by an Atlanta Negro officer, with both happening on Auburn Avenue. The first victim was also charged with resisting arrest when the officer shot him in the leg as he reportedly attempted to escape arrest.

No case was made against Officer Dixon in Thursday's shooting.

ANOTHER UNRULY CASE

Another case of an unruly prisoner was reported by Patrolman E. H. Lyons and Johnny Jones in the Decatur Street vicinity.

Sat 10-23-48

The officers said when they attempted to arrest Clarence Browning, 42, of 28 Connally Place for creating a disturbance in a pool hall, Browning resisted arrest and had to be subdued with necessary force.

The officers reported the pool hall operator, Morris Mongoli, as having to evict Browning from his establishment at gun point when the latter was creating disturbance.

According to the officers, a switchblade knife was found in Browning's possession at the time of his arrest. After being dismissed from the hospital, Browning was booked on charges of disorderly conduct-disturbance, resisting arrest and violating the knife ordinance, reports showed.

Youth With Victim Claims Cops Acted Without Any Cause

The Courier

Sat 7-17-48

Pittsburgh, Pa.

(13c)

(Special to The Courier)

ALBANY, Ga.—More light was shed this week on the killing of John Oscar Hardwick, 35, in Weston, Ga., by two State patrol officers, with the release of statements and signed affidavits from an undertaker who took Hardwick's body off the road where it had been left and from a youngster who was with Hardwick when he was reportedly accosted by the officers.

According to Walter Butler, young son of Coot Butler with whom Hardwick lived, the youth and Hardwick were walking along a dirt road on June 26 on their way to get groceries when a car drove up with two white men in it. One of the men said to Hardwick, "Come here boy and get in this car."

The Courier

HARDWICK KICKED

"John Oscar Hardwick," states the affidavit, "rushed to the car and at the time he got there to the car one white man got out and kicked him several times before he could get in the car. John Oscar Hardwick did not resist or refuse to get in the car at all; he did not do anything but go to the car and get in; neither did he say anything after he was kicked. After he got in the car they drove off."

Sat 7-17-48

Sometime later Hardwick was found shot to death along the dirt highway.

SEVERELY BEATEN

T. V. Williams, manager of a funeral home at Richland, whom the patrolmen had instructed to go and pick up Hardwick's body, said he found the body in the following condition: several swollen places about the body, skin cut on right cheek, left jawbone broken, hole in center of head, several scars on right leg, three wounds from a pistol or rifle, in the stomach, above the right breast and at the lower part of the neck.

Pittsburgh Pa

Williams said the patrolmen told him they had picked up Hardwick for drinking and that he had cursed them.

The patrolmen have been identified by Atty. Austin T. Walden of Atlanta, Ga., as H. D. Britt and Truitt.

Two Officers Wounded As Posse Slays Convict

N. in police (Ga)

(13c)

The Constitution

Constitution State News Service.

DOUGLAS, July 30—Two predawn gun battles between an escaped convict who vowed he would never be taken alive and State and County officers near here today resulted in the death of the convict and the wounding of two officers.

Sat 7-31-48

Seriously wounded by a shotgun blast in the first of the two gunfights was State Trooper W. B. Hitchcock, Jr., 35, of Tifton, who is given a chance for recovery at a Douglas Hospital. Less seriously wounded was Sheriff Hughes, from Nashville in nearby Berrien County.

Atlanta, Ga.

Slain by a hail of bullets from an avenging posse in the second gunfight, the escaped convict was named by the State Patrol as Lucius Clark, 23, Negro, who had wounded Trooper Hitchcock and Sheriff Hughes.

The Patrol said Clark had escaped July 7 from the Johnson County Prison Camp where he was serving time for automobile theft. The Negro also had been convicted on "peeping Tom" and a variety of other charges, the Patrol said, had spent most of his life in prison, and had vowed after his escape never to be recaptured alive.

Clark had fired at Sheriff Hughes in Berrien County last Sunday night and escaped, the Patrol said, after the sheriff had jumped the escaped convict near Nashville.

Hughes later learned that the Negro had fled into Coffee County to a farmhouse about six miles northeast of Douglas. Late Thursday night the sheriff, accompanied by Troopers Hitchcock and J. P. MsCall and Deputy Sheriff Starling, of Coffee County, instituted a search.

They came to the house after midnight, surrounded it and were ambushed, the Patrol said, when the Negro fired a shotgun through the wall of the house at Sheriff Hughes. The charge, its force diminished in tearing through the wall, struck the sheriff in the chest, slightly wounding him.

The Patrol's version said Trooper Hitchcock then ran to the front of the house and met the Negro coming out. Both fired simultaneously. A trail of blood found later indicated the Negro was wounded, but his shotgun blast felled Hitchcock and the convict fled into the night.

Trooper McCall then rushed Hitchcock and Hughes to Douglas where it was found at the hospital that Hitchcock had sustained severe facial wounds, a broken jaw and two fractures of his collar bone.

Sat 7-31-48

The alarm was broadcast and soon State Patrol cars from Cordele, McRae, Waycross, Tifton, Americus, Dublin, Perry and Reidsville converged on the scene of the shooting along with a number of County officers.

Bloodhounds from Reidsville failed to pick up the fugitive's scent, but Sgt. J. W. Wingate and Trooper E. F. Parks, of Tifton, found the Negro hiding in a nearby chicken house and very nearly lost their lives in doing so. As they discovered him, the Troopers said, Clark fired point blank at them with his shotgun, the blast somehow passing between them and striking neither.

They fired back with a shotgun and pistol, and were joined immediately by more than a score of officers who pumped shotgun. rifle and pistol slugs into the chicken house until the Negro's fire ceased. They found him dead, with the shotgun still gripped in his arms.

No Other Course Left

James Daugherty, 38 year old Negro, of 248 Houston Street., was shot and subsequently died here Thursday evening by a Negro officer after he had resisted arrest, attacked and slashed the officer. Daugherty's death represents the first Negro killed by a Negro officer since they were appointed here last April.

The facts show that Patrolman Claude Dixon had warned Daugherty earlier during the night to go home because of his intoxicated conditions. Much later during the same evening, the officer stated that upon returning he found Daugherty was still in the restaurant and he therefore placed him under arrest. In his effort to arrest Daugherty, said Patrolman Dixon, he was attacked and slashed on the wrist by the prisoner. The arresting officer spared himself of possibly a fatal wound by throwing up his left hand and preventing Daugherty's knife from landing on some other portion of his body, whereupon he reached for his gun and fired into Daugherty's stomach, resulting in his death several hours later.

It was the only thing left for the officer to do. It seems that even there, officer Dixon allowed the case to develop to a point where patience on his part ceased to be a virtue. There is no need nor sense either in an officer of the law to place himself and his personal life into jeopardy merely trying to educate such rowdies into the value and virtue of respect for the law. People who get drunk and curse and resist constituted police authority are not the ones who will profit by kindly forbearance and teaching. The best and perhaps only lesson for them is what Dixon finally had to do in sheer self-defense. Sun 10-24-48

There probably are a few other Negroes who, like Daugherty, would rather be dead than to obey the law. They have not and do not wish to learn that the Negro officers represent the law and as such, must be obeyed. They represent the switch blade brigade and the pistol-packing crowd to whom reason and common sense will have no appeal. Thus the Negro officers will have to educate and speak to them in the only language they can understand.

13c 1948

Negroes by Policemen (Georgia)

Suspect, Shot In Back By DeKalb Policeman, Dies

13c Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Following a chase of a whiskey car Thursday, a DeKalb County officer was reported to have shot and killed one of its two alleged occupants while they were running from their abandoned vehicle.

Shot in the back, the wounded man, H. Miller, of 216 Pine St., N. E., was said to have died later at Grady hospital. Fri. 2-27-48

It was learned that Miller uttered before he died that the officer shot him while he was running on foot.

The car that Miller and another occupant is alleged to have occupied reportedly contained 100 gallons of whiskey. The shooting is reported to have occurred on Northside drive, near the North Decatur road.

Dekalb Police Headquarters was contacted late Thursday but reports received from there were that authorities permitted to divulge information were out investigating the case.

It was said that the DeKalb officers pursued the alleged whiskey car across the DeKalb county line into Fulton county before the vehicle was finally halted and Miller shot. Fri. 2-27-48

[illegible] occurrences usually require a [illegible] of report with Fulton Coun[illegible] authorities, but late Monday [illegible]orts had not been filed, it was said.

Patrolmen Slay Unarmed Man In Richland, Ga.

The World

Atlanta, Ga.

RICHLAND, Ga. — (S N S) — "Self defense" was the reported claim of two Georgia State highway patrolmen who allegedly arrested an unarmed Negro on a drunk charge here Saturday and after bludgeoning him severely about the head, shot him to death in their patrol car.

13c Tue. 6-29-48

Approximately 35-years-old, the victim's name was given as John O. Hardwick.

From reports solicited, Hardwick was walking along a rural road when he was approached by the patrolmen, whose names were not immediately determined.

Tue. 6-29-48

They were said to have kicked him into their car and battered him savagely before shooting him three times. The slaying was said to have taken place before the protuberant eyes of two of his younger relatives.

Hardwick's lifeless body was left on the roadside while the patrolmen went to inform the undertaker that "there's a dead n-----r up the road. Go get 'em" the World was informed.

Hardwick's funeral is to be held Wednesday.

Trooper Admits Slaying Of 37 Year - Old Negro

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga.

13c Sat. 7-10-48

WESTON, Ga.—Sworn detail surronding the death of 3 year-old John Oscar Hardwick, unarmed saw-mill worke slain by a State Highway Patrolman on June 26, ascribe the death as unjustifiable after a coroner's jury ruled th officer killed in self defense. Sat. 7-10-48

Hardwick, according to sworn reports, was walking along the highway enroute home here with two youngsters when a patrol car drove up and one of the officers hollored: "Come here boy and get in this car!" Daily World, Atlanta

Hardwick reportedly walked up to the car in compliance to the order when one of the officers got out and kicked him several times before he could get inside. Ga.

NO RESISTANCE SEEN

An eyewitness related that Hardwick offered no resistance and the patrol car drove off with him in custody on charges unknown.

In retracing the death ride, information was solicited from another witness who stated she was sitting on her porch when she saw the patrol car drive up and one of the officers alighted and walked around to the opposite side of the vehicle. Sat. 7-10-48

Immediately thereafter she claimed to have heard three shots and because of fear, she fled from the scene.

[illegible]OT THREE TIMES

Hardwick was shot in the stomach, above the right breast and in the neck.

Leaving his lifeless body on the roadside, the patrolmen were reported to have called at an undertaking establishment where they remarked: "There is a dead n——r up the road. Go get 'im." 7-10-48

BATTERED ABOUT BODY

Other than being shot three times, Hardwicks body displayed a gory mass of bruises and gaping holes. His head suffered three severe fractures one in the top, another on the right side of the head and his jaw bone was broken, sworn reports disclose. In addition the deceased received several other bruises about the body, it was declared. Sat. 7-10-48 Daily World

TROOPER'S STORY

However, an official report of the coroner's inquest into Hardwick's death quoted State Trooper H. D. Brett as saying he shot the victim as the latter was advancing on him with "a metal tire tool." The trooper and his partner, Trooper Pruitt, claimed Hardwick was drunk when they arrested him. Atlanta, Ga.

Eyewitnesses to the arrest discounted the claim that Hardwick was intoxicated. They claimed he was minding his business and was on his way home with groceries when the troopers stopped him.

13c 1948 Negroes by Policemen (Kentucky)

Policeman Kills Prisoner During Scuffle In Hospital

The Courier-Journal

Louisville Ky

Patrolman Almon, Charged With Manslaughter, Says Negro Attempted to Take His Pistol

Arthur Mitchell, 28, Negro, sometimes called "Joe Louis" by his pals, was slain by a policeman in General Hospital at 6 p.m. yesterday.

13 [illegible] (Ky)

Mitchell was at the hospital in police custody for treatment of injuries suffered in a scuffle with other policemen earlier.

Patrolman Marvin Almon, 40, said he fired five times at Mitchell after the latter attacked him and tried to get his gun while both were in a hospital washroom.

Mitchell sprinted from the washroom, down a hall toward the emergency-room exit in the basement. He dropped dead, with a bullet wound in the chest, after having run about 100 feet.

Shot 4 Times At Feet.

Almon, regularly assigned to the emergency ward, was charged with manslaughter. He was paroled to Night Police Chief Charles Doyle.

Almon said Mitchell had asked to be taken to the washroom. Once inside, Mitchell grabbed him by the neck, struck him, and struggled for his gun, Almon asserted. He would have got it, the patrolman added, if the thong of his nightstick hadn't been looped over the gun butt.

Almon said he shot Mitchell point blank when the latter stooped as if he intended to fling some water buckets. Mitchell then dashed through the door and Almon, in pursuit, shot four times at his feet. All four shots missed.

Bullets Chip Hall Walls.

Several bullet holes were in the hallway walls.

An interne who declined use of his name partly confirmed Almon's version of the shooting. A nurse, who also withheld her name, said Almon shouted for help and fired after none appeared.

Patrolman Kenneth Smith and John Steele said Mitchell fought them when he was arrested at his home, 1118 W. Madison. They said they were called there by a woman who charged Mitchell had threatened to kill her.

Smith and Steele said they then took Mitchell to his mother's house, 1017 W. Madison, where he asked to be allowed to pick up some clothes.

Sat 4-3-48

Had 33 Arrest Record.

Instead, they related, he stood them off with a poker and had to be clubbed before they could get him in their squad car.

En route to headquarters, they asserted, Mitchell again "acted up" and subsequently was handcuffed. While being slated on disorderly conduct and assault-and-battery charges, Mitchell requested treatment for a head wound. He was turned over to Almon at General Hospital and his handcuffs were removed.

Night Chief Doyle said Mitchell had been arrested 33 times. He said Mitchell's belligerency had earned him the nickname "Joe Louis" among his acquaintances.

13c 1948 Negroes by Policemen (Louisiana)

Grief in a Louisiana Shack

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Thurs. 3-25-48

A Negro's Life Meant Nothing to the Gretna Cop

By Dillard Oakes

GRETNA, La., March 24 (FP)—I found Mrs. Mary Brooks, widow of Roy Cyril Brooks, sitting alone in her one-story wooden shack on Chunk's Row and grieving over the death of her husband, who was shot to death on a Gretna street by a white patrolman.

She was still obviuosly stunned when I talked to her a few days after the funeral, and bitter about patrolman Alvin Bladsacker, who was back at his job directing traffic less than an hour after he emptied his revolver into her husband's body.

The day Brooks was murdered, he had brought her his week's pay and started right back to his night shift job at the Swift & Co. plant in Harvey, where he had worked for years—"nearly all his life," Mrs. Brooks said.

SHOT IN BACK 3-25-48

He had hurried home a little before 3 p.m. and he was due back at 3:30. He jumped on the Gretna bus and in the center of town, he transferred to the Westwego bus. He got into a slight argument with the driver when he offered to help a Negro woman who boarded the bus by mistake and wanted her nickel back. About 3:15 p.m. patrolman Bladsacker stepped into the dispute, hit Brooks savagely over the head with the butt of his revolver, then dragged him from the bus and shot him twice—once in the back. At 3:55 the coroner pronounced Brooks dead.

Her husband always brought his wages home, "regular habit, every Friday," Mrs. Brooks told me. "I never knew of his ever being in trouble before," she added, a bewildered expression on her unsmiling face. He was devoted to his three children, serious, steady and dependable. Everyone liked him.

No, she wasn't working now, but she has worked as a shrimp-picker over at Robinson's factory in Westwego. She was a member of the CIO Food, and Tobacco Workers, the same union to which her husband had belonged for over five years. Daily Worker

Mrs. Brooks looked around her mean little home, two rooms, a bedroom and kitchen. No heat. The roof leaks. The toilet is out in the yard. Holes in the walls are stuffed with paper or rags. "He don't fix up a thing," she told me, referring to Fred Chunky, the white landlord. New York, N.Y.

I went over to see Roy Leo Brooks, the 22-year-old married son of the murdered man. He is a tall, slender boy with a sensitive, good-looking face. He was at his aunt's home when word was phoned there that his father had been shot. He got to the murder scene just as the coroner straightened up and pronounced his father dead. Young Brooks said his father was lying in the street. A friendly young white man helped him lift the body and place it on the sidewalk. Nobody had gone for a doctor. Nobody had done anything for the dying man. Thurs. 3-25-48

KILLER LAUGHS

As he kneeled by his father's body he saw patrolman Bladsacker standing nearby. Someone jokingly suggested that the cop take a look at the man he had killed. Bladsacker laughed. Several white men, pals of the cop, came up and shook hands with Bladsacker. They were laughing, too.

"I saw them, an' I heard them, but I wasn't listening to what they said. I was kneeling by my daddy," the young ex-soldier said. His eyes were tearless. Only the bitter undertone of his voice revealed his deep, burning anger. A World War II veteran, he has an 18-year-old brother who joined the Army last July. Daily Worker

The Rev. C. E. Brooks, the dead man's brother, told me about the funeral. "You couldn't get near the church," he said. "There were about 2,000 people there. They were aroused. That funeral blocked traffice for about an hour." New York N.Y.

Out of that anger has come an interracial Committee for Justice in the Brooks Case, headed by Albert A. O'Brien, representative of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers, and G. C. Montgomery of the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. They are demanding that Bladsacker be suspended from police duty and prosecuted like any other accused criminal. 3-25-48

Widow of Another Victim Tells How He Was Slain

The Worker

New York, N.Y. Sun. 3-28-48

GRETNA, La. (FP) — I found Mrs. Mary Brooks, widow of Roy Cyril Brooks, sitting alone in her one-story wooden shack on Chunk's Row and grieving over the death of her husband, who was shot to death on a Gretna street by a white patrolman.

The day Brooks was murdered, he had brought her his week's pay and started right back to his night shift job at the Swift & Co. plant in Harvey, where he had worked for years—"nearly all his life,"—Mrs. Brooks said.

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About 3:15 patrolman Bladsacker stepped into the dispute, hit Brooks savagely over the head with the butt of his revolver, then dragged him from the bus and shot him twice—once in the back. At 3:55 the coroner pronounced Brooks dead. Sun. 3-28-48

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No, she wasn't working now, but she has worked as a shrimp-picker over at Robinson's factory in Westwego. She was a member of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural & Allied Workers (CIO), the same union to which her husband had belonged for over five years.

Mrs. Brooks looked around her mean little home, two rooms, a bedroom and kitchen. No heat. The roof leaks. The toilet is out in the yard. Holes in the walls are stuffed with paper or rags. "He don't fix up a thing," she told me, referring to Fred Chunky, the white landlord.

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"I saw them, an' I heard them, but I wasn't listening to what they said. I was kneeling by my daddy," the young ex-soldier said. His eyes were tearless. Only the bitter undertone of his voice revealed his deep, burning anger. A World War II veteran, he has an 18-year-old brother who joined the army last July. Four of his cousins also fought in the war against fascism overseas. Sun 3-28-48

Another Negro Killed, Cop Still Walks Beat

The Worker

New York, N.Y. Sun. 3-21-48

By Victor Savage

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Another brutal murder of a Negro worker took place Feb. 27 in Gretna, Louisiana, across the Mississippi river from this city. Three such murders, that receive meager notices in the press, have taken place in this state in recent months and the culprits have gone scott free. The ferocious terror against the Negro people goes on unabated in spite of reports emanating from Tuskeegee that the number of lynchings have greatly diminished.

What constitutes a lynching is of paramount importance for a real appreciation of the status of civil liberties in the deep South. There are well-meaning people who define a lynching only when a mob takes the law into their own hands and uses a rope and tree as judge and jury to hang a defenseless Negro.

Such definitions, no matter how kindly the source, can only gloss over and hide the constant daily lynch atmosphere that hangs like a pall over the entire South, maintaining the South in a semi-colonial status with a ball and chain around the necks of whites as well as Negroes.

Here's an example of how a legal lynching takes place and receives but a line or two in the local press.

★

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE for justice in the Brooks case reports as follows:

Last Friday, Feb. 27, 1948, at 3:15 p.m., in the City of Gretna, Roy C. Brooks, a decent, law-abiding citizen of this state and a long-time member of Local 309, FTA-CIO, was deliberately murdered in cold blood by policeman Alvin Bladsacker of the Gretna police. The Worker

We have investigated this case thoroughly and have found, without the shadow of a doubt, that this is the most brutal murder in the long and bloody history of Negro murder by the Gretna police.

The facts of the case are these: Roy C. Brooks, a Negro got on a bus in Gretna behind a woman who had boarded the bus mistakenly, inserted her nickle in the "slot" register, and then, finding that she was on the wrong bus, asked for the return of her nickle. The bus driver refused, saying that the nickle had gone through the register and that he could not return it to her. New York N.Y.

Roy C. Brooks, being right behind the woman, and noting the incident, handed the woman his nickle instead of inserting it in the register, so that no one would be the loser. This is a common practice in such cases. But the bus driver challenged Brooks and insisted that he insert a nickle in the register. This Brooks rightfully refused to do. Sun.

Policeman Alvin Bladsacker, on traffic duty at the ferry entrance a few feet away, walked over to the bus when he heard the bus driver's loud talk and ordered Brooks immediately from the bus. Brooks attempted to explain what had happened to the policeman and the policeman struck him savagely on the head with his blackjack. He then proceeded to walk Brooks, bleeding profusely, to the Gretna jail, a block away. 3-21-48

When half way to the jail, policeman Bladsacker, without any provocation whatsoever from Brooks (it was broad daylight and hundreds of people were walking the street in the vicinity) pulled out his pistol and very deliberately murdered Brooks. The coroner's report stated that there were two bullets in Brooks, one in the abdomen and one in the back—both at close, point-blank range.

It was also stated that Brooks was unarmed.

Policeman Bladsacker is back at his post at the Ferry.

Louisiana Cop Indicted For Slaying Negro

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

By Dillard Oakes

(Reprinted from yesterday's late edition)

GRETNA, La., May 30 (FP).—Patrolman Alvin Bladsacker was indicted by a grand jury for manslaughter May 21 because of his unprovoked killing of Roy Cyril Brooks, Negro unionist, a month and a half ago. Tues. 6-1-48

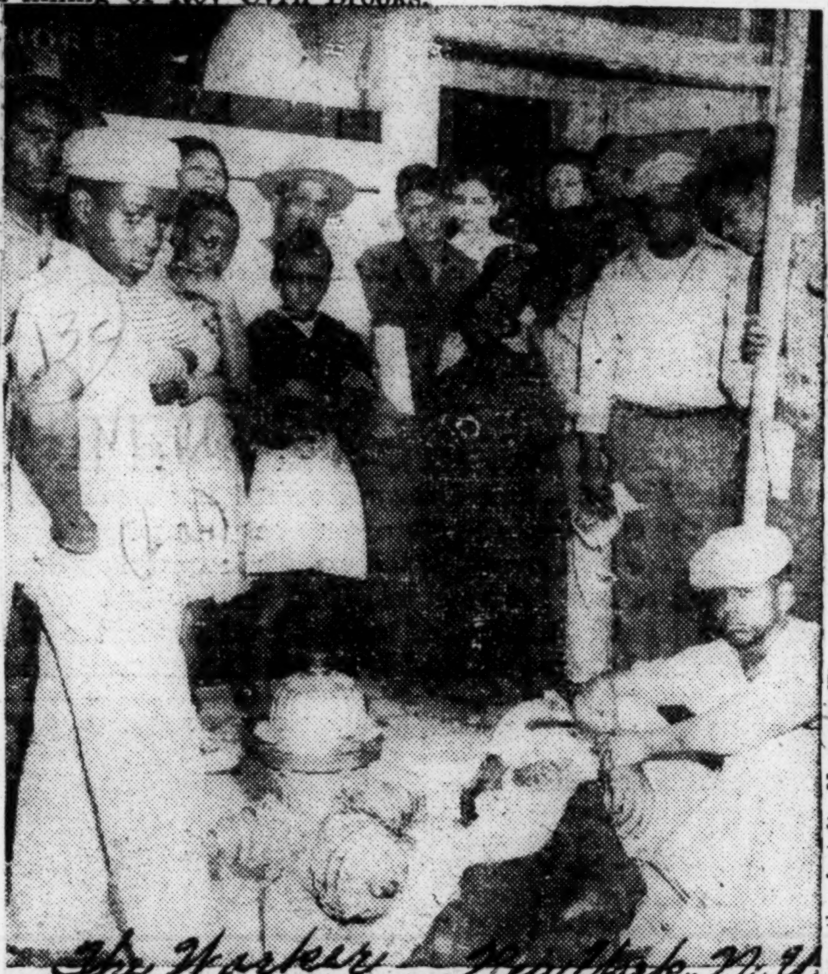
This is believed to be the first time in Louisiana history that a white policeman has been indicted for killing a Negro. Louis Berry, prominent Negro attorney from New Orleans, gave credit for this initial victory to the Louisiana Committee for Civil Rights, which has tirelessly hunted up witnesses to Brooks' murder and obtained statements from them.

These witnesses, he indicated, turned the tide of sentiment in the grand jury, which had been moving toward exoneration of the Negro-hating cop.

The civil rights committee, formed to obtain justice in the Brooks case, also brought direct pressure to bear on the authorities by enlisting the aid of the Civil Rights Congress and Congressman Vito Marcantonio and Leo Isacson (ALP-NY) and Sen. Glen H. Taylor (D-Ida), who brought up the case on the floor of Congress. Tues.

Brooks, a member of the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers, was killed while on his way to work about six weeks ago. He got into an argument with a bus driver because he assisted a woman who boarded the bus by mistake and then wanted her nickel back. Bladsacker stepped from his traffic control job into the bus, struck Brooks on the head with his revolver, dragged him off toward the jail and halfway there shot Brooks twice and left him to die in the street. 6-1-48

The killing has aroused widespread resentment among Brooks' white and Negro fellow unionists and among the Negro population generally. The civil rights committee has won considerable support in its fight to convict Bladsacker. If the policeman is found guilty, he faces imprisonment up to 21 years.



The Worker New York, N.Y.

COP HELD FOR KILLING NEGRO—For probably the first time in Louisiana history a white policeman has been indicted for killing a Negro. Taken shortly after the slaying, this picture shows the dead man, Roy Cyril Brooks of the Farm Tobacco Agricultural and Allied Workers, CIO, stretched out on the sidewalk in Gretna while his son (r.) looks on. Sun. 6-6-48

HOLD LOUISIANA COP IN NEGRO SLAYING

Daily Worker

BATON ROUGE, La., July 6.—Eye-witness accounts of the altercation that cost the life of a Negro trusty at state police headquarters here have brought about a charge of manslaughter against state trooper S. T. Brister.

Daily Worker

The charge came four days after the death of C. D. Richardson and after persistent probing by newspaper reporters, who learned of the case in spite of the do-nothing, say-nothing policy of various officials connected with the case.

New York, N.Y.

Prisoners present at the scene of the incident, in which Richardson, serving a sentence for burglary, received his fatal head injury, said that Brister, a guard for the prisoners, accused Richardson of being drunk. In the ensuing argument, they said, Brister pushed the prisoner over a lawn mower. Brister then threw a soft drink bottle that hit the Negro on the cheek and broke. As Richardson walked away Brister struck him from behind with a two-by-four board, knocking him down. Wed. 7-7-48

Brister had previously been discharged from police headquarters in McComb, Miss., following a fight with a civilian. Daily Worker

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Cop Kills Man Who Failed To Take Off Hat

The Defender

COVINGTON, La.—Night Policeman Kinzie Jenkins was freed here by a coroner's jury last week in the killing of a Negro who did not remove his hat in the presence of whites.

The victim, Danny Brant, 37, died in an ambulance on his way to Bogalusa hospital after Jenkins had fired two bullets into his body.

The slaying grew out of Brant's entering the lobby of a local white hotel and being struck by a white man because he had not removed his hat. Policeman Jenkins was called by whites to the scene of the disturbance and fired two shots into Brant. Sat. 10-23-48

Negro residents accuse Alphonse Thomas, the hotel's Negro porter, of having pushed Brant to a spot on the front sidewalk where Jenkins could fire at him point blank.

U.S. JURY INDICTS EX-POLICEMAN IN CIVIL RIGHTS CASE

The Times-Picayune New Orleans, La.

Charges Fatal Beating of Convict Unjustified

A former state policeman was indicted Thursday by the federal grand jury for violation of the civil rights statute in connection with the club slaying of a Negro convict at the state police barracks in Baton Rouge on June 27. Fri. 12-10-48

He is S. T. Brister, 39, Baton Rouge, who, at the time the act allegedly was committed was a state police investigator assigned to supervise convict trustees working at the police barracks.

The indictment was returned to Judge Wayne G. Borah and a warrant for Brister's arrest was issued and his bond set at $2500. It charged that he attacked the convict, Charles David Richardson, with a wooden club three feet long and two by four inches thick "without justifiable cause."

The indictment charged that Richardson was deprived of "the right not to be deprived of his life without due process of law." According to United States Attorney J. Skelly Wright, the maximum penalty possible under the indictment is one year in prison or a $10,000 fine or both. Fri. 12-10-48

According to Wright, the alleged attack was the result of an argument between the two men as to whether or not Richardson was drunk. He said a group of the trustee convicts had been in the city of Baton Rouge and when they returned Brister accused Brister of being drunk. An argument ensued and one of the men hit the other with a bottle, after which Brister obtained the two-by-four and began beating Richardson on the head while the other trustees looked on, the prosecutor said

Whitewash Killing of Negro Vet

PM New York N. Y. Sun. 2-29-48

Special Correspendence

CHARLES TOWN, W. Va.

The public record in this Jefferson county seat about 25 miles South of Hagerstown, Md., shows that George Serrell, 24, Philadelphia veteran of two years service in the Pacific including action on Iwo Jima, was shot to death while resisting arrest.

Serrell, who balked at riding in a Jim Crow car on the Norfolk and Western Railroad while traveling to his former home at Parisburg, Va., with his wife, was shot in the back by C. M. Campbell, a railroad detective.

At the Coroner's inquest, in which only two witnesses were heard, Campbell said he had to do it to protect John Brown, a Jefferson County constable, who, he concerned the case was closed.

"We don't want any outside influence," Skinner said, to justify his refusal to permit lawyers for AVC and NAACP to participate in the inquest or examine the two witnesses. 2-29-48

According to Howard Richard, AVC attorney, Mr. and Mrs. Serrell were removed from the Norfolk and Western train at 4 a.m. at Shenandoah Junction after the conductor summoned the railroad policeman because the Serrells had refused to move into the Jim Crow car, preferring to stand on a platform so that their clothes would not be soiled. Campbell, however, said the Serrells had refused to pay their fare while Mrs. Serrell insists they had through tickets which they gave to the conductor.

Any way, Campbell held the pair in the station while he telephoned Constable Brown who arrived in a car with Mrs. Brown at the wheel. Headed for the County jail, Mrs. Brown drove with Campbell beside her; Brown, Serrell and Mrs. Serrell in the seat behind her. Neither officer was in uniform, though each had a gun and blackjack.

Suddenly, Brown and Serrell were locked in struggle. The officers said that Serrell was choking Brown while Mrs. Serrell tried to choke Mrs. Brown. Campbell testified he fire three shots into Serrell's back, from one stance, and when Prosecutor Skinner asked why he didn't use his blackjack he said he "forgot about it" in the excitement of trying to save his colleague.

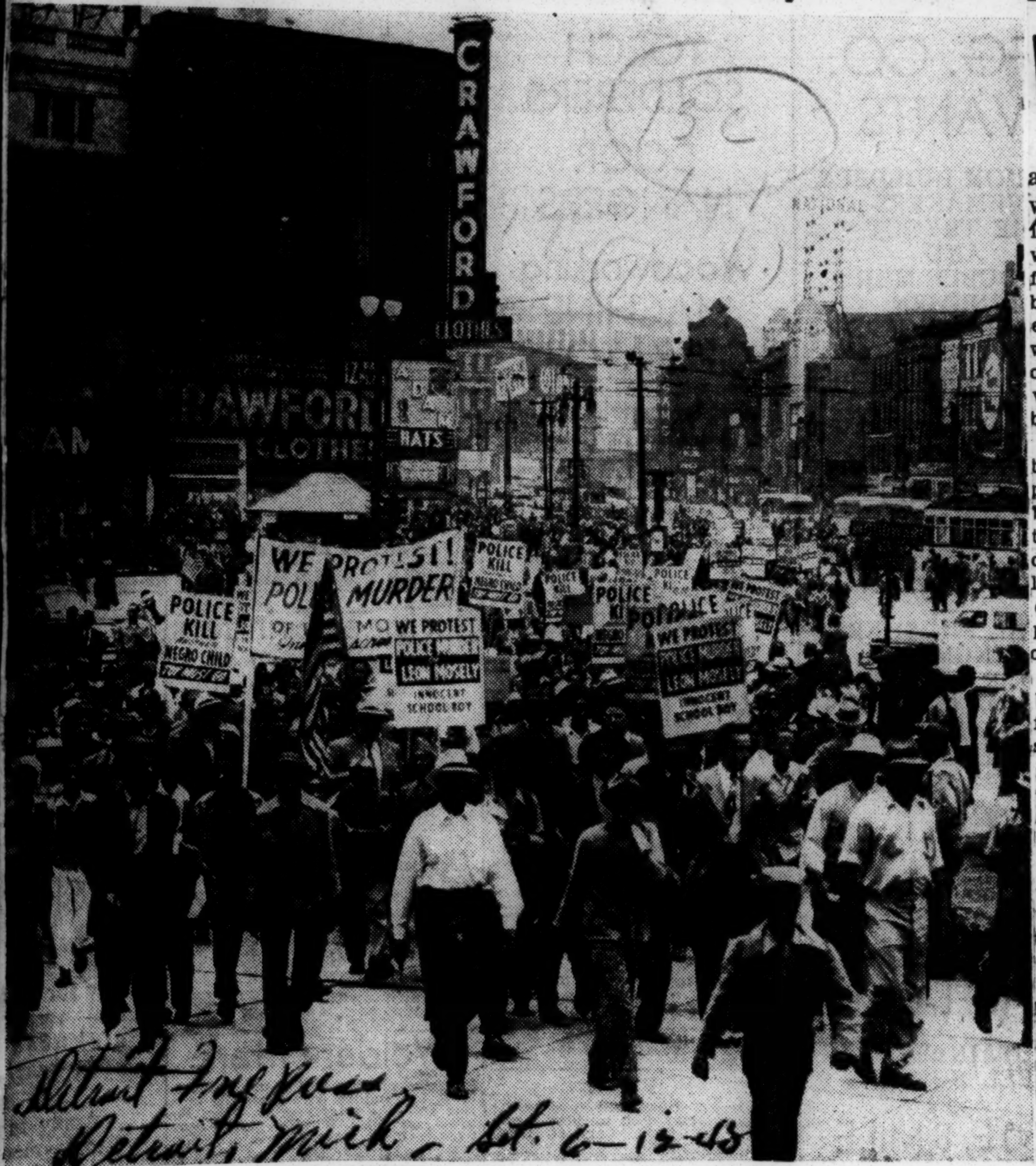
Attorney Richard pointed out that Skinner failed to question Mrs. Serrell, who says she fled from the car when the struggle started, or two passing truckmen who said Constable Brown was standing on the pavement when they heard a shot inside the parked car.

Richard also said he had photographs, taken by a Charles Town photographer, which showed that the three bullets entered from different angles, one from the front passing through the neck and face.

Richard and T. G. Nutter, for the NAACP, said they hoped by publicity to arouse public indignation and attract the attention of Attorney General Tom Clark and President Truman to the case, with the result that Jefferson County authorities would have no choice but to order a complete grand jury probe.

A protest meeting of Jefferson County Negroes was planned for the night of the inquest but the two attorneys persuaded leaders to call it off rather than run the risk of stimulating racial hatred in this community of 3,000.

Mourners March on City Hall



Detroit Free Press
Detroit, Mich. - Sat. 6-12-48

Demonstrators march on City Hall after funeral of Leon Mosely, 15-year-old Negro boy who was slain by police. Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy has ordered investigation of shooting.

Acquit Detroit Cop Who Killed Negro

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—Louis Melasi, city cop who shot and killed 15-year-old Negro schoolboy Leon Mosley June 4, was today acquitted by Judge Eugene Gordon of a charge of involuntary manslaughter. This verdict by Judge Gordon came in face of the evidence against Melasi by Dr. A. M. Altshuler, physician employed by the county coroner, who testified that his examination of Mosley showed several wounds which were not inflicted by the bullet that entered Mosley's back.

The wounds included cuts over the left eye and on the right temple, a bruised cheek, a cut in the back of the head and a small fracture severe enough to have caused death. Fifteen witnesses saw Mosley beaten by three policemen two of whom were Melasi and his partner John Bolend was cleared of all complicity in Mosley's killing.

Two cops from the scientific laboratory testified that blood was found on Melasi's gun, thus substantiating the statements of witnesses that Mosley was severely beaten by gun butts before he staggered away to the sidewalk where he was shot down by Melasi.

Hunter Williams, Negro Ford worker, a key prosecution witness, testified he appealed to Melasi not to shoot Mosley. Williams said Mosley was so weakened by the terrific pounding that "I told Melasi, I can get that boy for you. Don't shoot him. Don't kill him.

This evidence of police brutality and premediated killing was ignored by Judge Gordon.

During the course of the trial last week, Mrs. Mabel Mosley, mother of Leon, was taken from the courtroom by the police "red squad" to central headquarters and grilled because she talked to this reporter and several people who had testified.

Attorneys for Mrs. Mosley announced that her suit against the city and police department for $25,000 indemnity for the killing of her son will be pushed vigorously. Also a warrant for the arrest of Bolend, Melasi's partner will be sought on a charge of assault and battery.

Tues-12-21-48

Not a single word of condemnation of police brutality was rendered in Judge Gordon's acquittal verdict.

He took time out to criticize the "interference" of Mrs. Mosley's attorney Ernest Goodman.

Cop on Trial for Slaying Negro

Daily Worker

By William Allan

DETROIT, Dec. 15. — Damaging evidence against City cop Louis Melasi who shot and killed a 15-year-old Negro school boy June 4, was read into the court record today and yesterday in Melasi's trial for involuntary manslaughter. The testimony of Dr. A. M. Altshuler, coroner's physician, Lt. Albert Langtry of the Police Department and Hunter Williams, key eyewitness of the shooting, was considered by many court observers and newspapers men sufficient to obtain a verdict of guilty.

Thur. 12-16-48
New York, N.Y.

Dr. Altshuler testified that his autopsy showed several wounds which were not inflicted by the bullet that entered the back of Leon Mosley who was killed. The wounds included cuts over the left eye and on the right temple, a bruised cheek, a cut in the back of the head and a skull fracture severe enough to be ruled a possible cause of death.

Lt. Langtry testified that he found blood on the hood and fender of the police scout car where Mosley, according to a number of witnesses, was beaten. The shooting, it is estimated, took place, more than 50 feet from the scout car. Blood spots were also found on Melasi's gun.

Hunter Williams of 2247 Waterloo described how he watched three police officers, slugging young Mosley, knock him down and then how Mosley staggered away to be shot in the back by Melasi. Williams told how his wife screamed "officers don't shoot, don't kill him." William's wife Mary said that she asked the officers what Mosley had done and they told her 'he killed someone over there."

Half a dozen witnesses have under oath testified that Mosley was beaten before he was shot. Chief technique of the attorneys for Melasi, who are Frank Schemanske and a one time liberal, Henry Sweeney, is to cast doubts on the accuracy of witness testimony and to disprove Hunter Williams "hanging evidence."

Parents to Sue Policemen for Slaying of Boy

Detroit Press

The parents of Leon Mosely, 15-year-old Negro who was shot to death by a Detroit policeman, filed suit in Circuit Court for $50,000.

Sun 8-11-48

Defendants in the suit are Patrolmen Louis Melasi and John Boland.

The Mosely boy was shot after a stolen car he was driving had crashed into a tree after a 12-block chase.

Detroit * Mich

MELASI, WHO admitted firing the fatal shots, is awaiting trial in Recorder's Court on the charge of manslaughter.

Boland was held blameless by a Coroner's jury and has been assigned to active duty. Melasi is under suspension pending the outcome of his Recorder's Court trial.

Detroit Cop Who Killed Negro Lad Is Tried Today

Daily Worker

New York, New York

DETROIT, Dec. 13.—Louis Melasi, city cop who shot and killed 15-year-old Negro schoolboy Leon Mosley, last June 4, will be tried tomorrow in Judge Groat's court in Recorders Court Building.

For months the Committee for Justice for Leon Mosley has demanded an immediate trial, but Republican prosecutor James McNally, recently defeated when he sought reelection, stalled the trial.

12-14-48

Now two weeks before McNally goes out of office, a great rush to get the trial over with prevails in the prosecuting attorney's office. Obviously McNally views wih alarm the taking over of his office Jan. 1 by the new prosecutor, Gerald M. O'Brien, son of Michigan's liberal judge, Patrick. H. O'Brien.

Last Friday, a delegation led by Ernest Goodman, Coleman Young and Roberta Barrows of the Progressive Party, Dorothy Marsh, YPA director and Miss Frances Price, Civil Rights Congress leader, met with McNally and demanded a special prosecutor be appointed to conduct the prosecution against Melasi. McNally refused.

The delegation also demanded issuance of a warrant for Melasi's partner, John Boland, on the grounds of being an accessory to the killing. McNally also refused to grant that.

12-14-48

The delegation announced that they would seek a warrant from a judge tomorrow for Boland's arrest as 15 witnesses at the coroner's inquest testified they saw him and Melasi beat and club young Mosley before Melasi fired the fatal shot. Boland is not under indictment.

Detroit Citizens Aroused Over 2nd Police Slaying

Defender
Chicago Ill

Charge Fatal Shooting of 15-Year-Old Boy Unwarranted; Investigation Ordered

6-19-48

DETROIT—The fatal shooting of 15-year-old Leon Moseley, 2260 Watson, June 4, by police, has aroused colored citizens of Detroit to a tempo similar to that preceeding the riots of 1943. 6-19-48

The death of young Moseley marks the second colored juvenile slain by police gunfire in the past nine months. 6-19-48

Patrolman Louis Begin was cleared in the fatal shooting last Oct. 12 of Beverly Lee, 13. Police had arrested young Lee for investigation of purse-snatching.

Moseley, a Miller High School student, was shot by Patrolman Louis Melasi, after the youngster, riding in an alleged stolen automobile, had been pulled into the curb following a chase through East Side streets.

Say Boy Broke Away

Patrolman Melasi and his partner in the scout car, Patrolman John Boland, said in their report of the shooting that Moseley broke away from them after he had been pulled out of the car. Melasi said he refused to obey orders to halt, and that one shot was fired in the air before the fatal bullet was fired.

Youth Kills Auto-Theft Suspect

Free Press

Manhunt Follows Escape from Police

Mon 10-11-48

Special to the Free Press

ANN ARBOR—An auto-theft suspect was killed in a cornfield near Saline by a young member of a sheriff's posse after he had twice escaped from officers and led them on an all-night search.

The victim was identified as Roosevelt Perkins, 32, a Negro, of 1980 Pierce, Detroit.

He was shot by Kenneth McAllister, 19, a Saline farm youth, who had joined the 100-member posse composed of Washtenaw County officers, State Police, Saline officers and farmers.

Detroit • Mich

THE CHASE for Perkins began in Saline when Officer Kenneth Alber spotted an auto speeding through the town Saturday night.

Alber said he followed the car at an 80-mile-an-hour clip until it sideswiped one vehicle about two miles from the town and crashed into another, injuring two people.

When Alber stopped to investigate the injured pair, James Ward, 25, of 17126 Omry, Detroit, and Richard Marcotte, 22, of 170 Church, Highland Park, Perkins leaped from the wreckage and disappeared in the darkness.

Early Sunday, Alber reported, he was called by a Saline restaurant manager who said he had served a customer who apparently had been in an accident and was acting suspiciously.

* * *

ALBER WENT TO the restaurant and placed Perkins under arrest, handcuffing him. As they were going out the door, Perkins jerked from his grasp, Alber said, and fled.

Alber said he fired twice at Perkins but believed he missed.

Washtenaw County officers were called and with State Police and civilians formed a posse.

The trail led to a field near where the accident had occurred the night before, Alber reported.

After the area was surrounded, a State Police airplane circled the area in an effort to spot the fugitive.

Mon 10-11-48

McALLISTER, armed with a heavy deer rifle, said he and a companion noticed a man slipping behind trees and ducking to the ground each time the plane passed in their direction.

Sending his companion back to a police car on the highway, McAllister said, he advanced to where he had last seen the man and was standing beside a tree when he heard a noise behind him.

McAllister said he turned to see Perkins running toward him. As he whirled around, McAllister said, Perkins stopped and then began running away from him, toward a clump of bushes.

McALLISTER told Eugene Calder, of the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office, that he twice shouted for the fugitive to halt and fired from about 150 feet when the second command was ignored.

The bullet killed Perkins.

Perkins, who still was handcuffed when shot, has a Detroit police record and was reportedly being hunted by State Police as a suspect in an armed robbery.

Washtenaw County officers said it was believed the car was stolen in Detroit and that the vehicle carried license plates that had been reported stolen from William Brooks, of 3119 St. Aubin, Detroit.

Jury Exonerates Cop Who Killed Negro Boy

The Worker

By William Allan

New York, N.Y.

DETROIT.—The Coroner's jury returned a verdict of excusable homicide in the killing of Beverly Lee, 13-year-old Negro youth, by Detroit Patrolman Louis Begin, who bragged after the killing how good a shot he was. Sun. 1-18-48

Harry S. Toy, Detroit's new police commissioner who received a letter from the jury calling for "a review of the police department's moral code" in the light of this killing, answered, **"stop them in any way they can even with bullets."**

Toy, a Ford Motor Company man and vicious foe of unions and civil liberties learned his lessons at the feet of gunman Harry Bennett, one-time head of the murderous Ford Service Department.

★

THAT'S HOW CHEAP life is to Detroit's new police commissioner, Toy, **"stop them in any way they can-even with bullets."** Life was cheap to his teacher Harry Bennett the day he gave the order to fire on unemployed marchers on Miller Road, March 7, 1932, before the gates of the Ford plant. 1-18-48

The order to shoot that day cost the lives of four workers. Toy, at that time Wayne County Prosecutor, said the marchers fired the shots, arrested 30 of them, while whitewashing the Service Department of Fords and Bennett. Today Detroit again hears the words "stop them with bullets," coming from a Ford man, Toy, who now is police commissioner. New York, N.Y.

★

THE BLOOD of Beverly Lee, can still be seen on the corner of Pine and Twelfth Streets, Detroit, where on the night of October 12 he was brutally shot down by Patrolman Begin after the one word "Halt" had been thrown at him. The Worker

Beverly Lee was on his way to the store. He had a $5 bill given to him by his mother for purchases. In his hand he carried an empty pop bottle. New York, N.Y.

The time was between 9 p. m. and 9:07 p. m. Shortly before, a police radio cruiser picked up a call that a Mrs. McGee had had her purse snatched in that vicinity. The description in no way fitted Beverly Lee. The Worker

Sun. 1-18-48

BEVERLY LEE

The cruiser rolled up Pine Street. The two cops inside spotted Beverly Lee. The boy was walking in the clear light of an overhead street lamp. The cops were 15 feet from him. According to witnesses they never even got out of the car.

The cruiser was not identifiable by Beverly Lee. All he heard was a harsh voice: "Halt." He was only 13 years old. Fear gripped him. He turned to run home. Sun. 1-18-48

Two shots pierced the night air, as one witness said, **"almost on the heels of the cry, 'halt'."** Beverly Lee died, shot in the back.

★

MRS. MARY DURHAM testifying at the Coroner's inquest, threw the courtroom into an uproar when she said that the cop began shouting at Beverly Lee: "Stop, you son of a bitch." Sun. 1-18-48

Was it any wonder then that Beverly Lee did not stop but started to run for home and protection!

Beverly Lee, like many other Negro kids, had heard his people talk of the constant terror against the Negro people that has prevailed in Detroit for years. The Worker N.Y.

Mrs. McGee the woman who reported the purse snatch, admitted that Beverly Lee was not the one. In that purse was $18 and a watch—a women's watch. Beverly Lee's pockets were emptied on the side walk where he lay. Witness's testified that all that was there was a $5 bill, a fifty cent piece, a watch (not a women's watch) a bill fold and a jackknife. The Worker New York, N.Y. Sun. 1-18-48

From across the street 40 yards away Mrs. Van Hatten, sitting on her porch, recognized the figures of Beverly Lee as a boy of 12 to 14 years of age. The cops said they shot because he was a man. They were 15 feet away.

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BEVERLY LEE was one of five children. His father is a hospitalized veteran of four years of war. He spent three of them in the European Theatre of action. He was wounded several times. He was a prisoner of war of the Nazis but managed to escape. He has four battle stars and a Purple Heart.

Beverly Lee won an honor badge for work with the Student Safety Patrol. This is the Patrol sponsored by the Detroit Police Department to guard the lives of children at dangerous street crossings.

This is the boy whom Detroit's police chief, Harry S. Toy, in his second day in office seeks to justify being murdered. The Worker

Bullets, according to Toy, must be sent after "all purse snatchers and attackers if they don't stop at the cry of halt." New York, N.Y.

Detroit citizens today face, with Toy as police chief, a new type of law, the law of the gun. Wielded by trigger-happy cops who, as in the case of Beverly Lee, don't even **get out of cars, call halt once, and then start shooting!** Sun. 1-18-48

Its time to call a halt to Toy and his order of "shoot." That's the next step to prevent more Beverly Lee's being killed.

Fear Whitewash Of Cops Who Slew Detroit Negro Boy

Tues. Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. 6-29-48

By William Allan

DETROIT, June 28.—Despite overwhelming evidence at a coroner's inquest by eyewitnesses that Leon Mosley, 15-year-old Negro school boy was beaten and then shot in the back by Detroit police, labor and civic leaders are warning of a whitewash of the police department.

In a letter to Mayor Van Antwerp, Rev. Charles Hill, chairman of the Committee for Justice for Leon Mosley, declares that actions of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office are laying the basis for helping Patrolmen Louis Melasi and John Bolend to get off scott free.

Melasi was the one who shot Mosley in the back, witnesses testified, and Bolend is accused of joining Melasi in a brutal beating that three doctors stated left skull fractures and face bruises.

ACCESS TO TESTIMONY

The charge of attempted whitewashing by the prosecutor's office is based on that office granting the attorney for the two policemen copies of testimony given the prosecutor. According to all legal practice, such testimony is supposed to be only in the hands of the prosecutor. Daily Worker

One attorney for the policemen is Frank Schemanske. To the surprise and disgust of liberals, Henry Sweeney, a former liberal, is also representing the cops. According to charges by the attorneys for the Mosley family, who are Ernest Goodman, George Crocket and Elvin Devenport, both Sweeney and Schemanske also obtained copies of the coroner's autopsy.

The assistant prosecuting attorney, Robert McCleary, has refused point-blank to give the Mosley attorneys copies of witnesses' testimony. The best that could be won after hours of argument was "the Mosley attorneys can look at statements when the inquest is in session." New York, N.Y.

COPS' STORIES

Joining in the whitewash are fellow patrolmen of Melasi and Bolend. Sergeant Casimir Zalinski admitted that Melasi had blood on his shirt when he came into the precinct station, yet Zalinski didn't think it important enough to report that to his superior officers.

Other cops who took Mosley's body to the hospital stated that they saw no bruises on his face. A witness testified that he rode to the hospital with Mosley's body and the face was covered with blood from wounds above the eyes and one cheek. All of the cops testify that Melasi fired two shots, one a warning and the other the death shot. Only the cops have been able to hear two shots. Tues.

Hunter Williams and his wife, Mabel, who stood alongside Melasi pleading with him not to draw his gun from its holster, stated that one shot was fired, the one that killed Mosley. 6-29-48

Thousands have signed petitions demanding that the City Council vote the removal of Harry S. Toy, Police Commissioner.

Policem[illegible]e In Youth Killing

Amsterdam News

By ISAAC JONES

DETROIT—It appears that the Detroit branch of the NAACP, the Michigan Civil Rights Committee, religious and civic organizations throughout the city have fought a losing battle in their efforts to have Patrolman John Boland taken before a trial board for his part in the fatal shooting, and alleged beating of 15-year-old Leon Mosley, former Miller High School student on June 4. New York, N.Y.

Boland, who was in the scout car with ex-officer Louis Malasie, and chased the youth in the stolen car which led to his slaying, was restored to the Detroit police department at the conclusion of a recent coroner's inquest, which found Malasie guilty of shooting the youth. He was suspended from the department. Later, a manslaughter warrant was issued for the officer and he was released on $2,000 bond and is to have a court trial.

Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy refused Tuesday to take Boland before the police trial board on the grounds that he has been exonorated by the prosecutor's office.

Thousands Attend Funeral of Negro, 15, Slain by Detroit Cop

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

(Reprinted from late edition of The Worker)

Mon. 6-14-48

By William Allan

DETROIT.—Four thousand people demonstrated Friday before Detroit City Hall demanding removal of police Commissioner Toy. The demonstration marched four miles from the heart of the Negro community protesting the shooting of 15-year-old Leon Mosley. They carried hundreds of banners, and many of them were schoolmates of the murdered youths.

At City Hall, for the first time in 14 years, a mass meeting was held where the following spoke: Coleman Young, CIO leader; Ellen Taylor of the Progressive Party; Jack Raskin of the Civil Rights Congress, and James Jackson of the Communist Party.

As the line of march passed the central police headquarters, the thousands of school children, Negro and white, let out a single shout: "Toy must go!" for 15 minutes they stayed, and roared their demands.

Mon. 6-14-48

Five thousand attended the services for the young boy earlier, and 3,000 viewed the body.

The Worker

Punishment Sought for Cop Who Killed Negro Unionist

Sun. 6-1348

NEW ORLEANS.—Punishment of Patrolman Alvin Bladsacker for the murder in Gretna of Roy Cyril Brooks would be a real advance of justice in the South, according to **The Louisiana Weekly**, authoritative Negro weekly here. In a page one featured article under the signature of Oakley C. Johnson, **The Louisiana Weekly** gave a resume of the notorious Brooks case and summarized the importance of convincing and punishing the killer policeman, whose trial will set something of a precedent in the South.

Bladsacker's "proper punishment," the article said, "would mean more than simple justice in this case. It might save the lives of many Negroes in the future by restraining white policemen from acts of violence against colored citizens. For southern policemen, instead of enforcing the law equally as they are sworn to do, themselves break the law they are supposed to uphold, and rely on southern white supremacy prejudice to let them go scot-free. If Bladsacker does not get away with the killing of Brooks, other trigger-happy white cops will think carefully before taking a life.

"Punishment of Bladsacker would also give some hope to a dazed bereaved woman who lives across the river in Chunk's Row, Gretna. Brooks' widow was still stunned when I talked to her a few days after her husband's funeral, and scarcely knew which way to turn. She is bitter about Patrolman Alvin Bladsacker, who was back at his job directing traffice less than an hour after he emptied his revolver into her husband's body. If Bladsacker is sent to prison, Mrs. Mary Brooks will have some feeling of protection in bringing up her little seven-year-old son, who before very long will himself reach young manhood.

★

"**AND STILL MORE:** If proper punishment is imposed in this case, it will lead to better relations between white and black people. Justice hurts no innocent person and gives all innocent people faith in the administration of the law. Fair-minded white people are deeply concerned over the murder of Brooks, and are joining with like-minded Negroes to win justice. Brooks was a member of a CIO union—the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union—which does not Jimcrow its Negro members. All his fellow workers, white and colored, want his death avenged.

"The first protest against the shooting of Brooks was a resolution drawn up by Local 309, the sea food workers who knew Brooks and had worked with him, and this resolution was sent to President Truman and to Attorney General Tom Clark. One of the signers of the resolution was a white woman. The Louisiana Committee for Civil Rights, which is now carrying on the work of the Brooks case, is an enlarged group with white and Negro members. It includes representatives of the union of which Brooks was a member, the West Bank NAACP, of which he was also a member, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and the Louisinia Wallace-for-President Committee.

"Mrs. Brooks now lives alone in her one-story wooden shack on Chunk's Row—a kind of slum, reminiscent of the worst of the old-time slave quarters. And she pays rent for this hut! There are two rooms; no plumbing, no inside toilet, no heating facilities for winter. The roof leaks. Holes in the walls are stuffed with paper and rags.

Sun. 6-13-48

"The miserable living conditions are a direct result of the low pay received by Negro workers in the limited jobs available to them, and they indicate that the freedom won by the Civil War has not fully materialized."

FIGHT DISCRIMINATION to halt the mass purge of Negroes from Georgia voting lists, eight Negroes have filed suit against 11 county and state officials seeking nearly $500,000 damages for being deprived of the right to vote. One-time state Attorney General Dan Duke is leading their legal battle.

Coroner's Jury Rules Killing Of Negro Boy 'Unjustifiable'

By William Allan

DETROIT, July 1.—A coroner's jury today ruled tha the killing of Leon Mosley, 15-year-old Negro school boy by police on June 4th, was "unnecessary, unwise and unjustifiable." Fri. 7-2-48

This leaves the way wide open for Wayne County Prosecutor James McNally to issue a murder warrant for Patrolman Louis Melasi who fired the fatal shot into Mosley's back.

McNally today told a mass delegation of union, civic leaders that all he knew about the case was what he read in the papers. McNally, during the two weeks of the coroner's inquest, was a delegate to the Republican convention in Philadelphia.

Meanwhile in front page editorials titled, "They should die" the press are calling for the hanging of a trio of criminals who murdered a man worth half a million dollars. The three were captured by the police this week. No such editorials appeared about the Detroit police who killed Leon Mosley the 15-year-old Negro school boy, the son of a unemployed auto worker. New York

Doctors at the inquest revealed that besides the shot in the back, Mosley had serious injuries that could only have come from a brutal beating with fists and gun butts.

They were: A laceration measuring 1.2 inch over the left eyebrow; another measuring ¼ inch on the right side of his sore head, another laceration on the back of the head, a fracture of the skull and numerous body bruises. Blood was found on the gun butt of Melasi. This evidence was contained in the coroner's autopsy.

More than 30 witnesses testified against the police. If the labor and civic groups succeed in forcing McNally to issue a murder warrant, it will be the first time in the innumerable Detroit police shootings, particularly of Negroes, that a policeman will face trial.

Inquiry Set in Slaying by Police

Free Press

Toy Acts as NAACP Protests Boy's Death

Detroit, Mich

Appeals from Common Council and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for an investigation of the fatal police shooting of a 15-year-old Negro boy brought swift action from Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy.

After conference with 19 persons, representing the NAACP and other interested groups, Toy:

1—Appointed Senior Inspector Marvin Lane to conduct a full-scale investigation.

Sat. 6-12-48

2—Ordered Patrolmen Louis Melasi and John Boland, of Davison Station, relieved from duty pending the outcome.

3—Assured conferees that if the inquiry proves the shooting occurred without provocation, the officers will be ordered before a police trial board.

* * *

LANE INDICATED that he would place a report on Toy's desk Saturday morning.

Inspector George Branton, of the Homicide Squad, said Lt. John Cotter, who has been investigating the June 4 slaying, would take a routine request for a manslaughter warrant to the Prosecutor's Office Saturday.

Free Press

Prosecutor James N. McNally, however, declared he would not act on the request until after an inquest, scheduled for Wednesday, has been completed.

Meanwhile, 2,000 persons jammed the St. John's A.M.E. Church, St. Aubin and Maple, and more than 1,000 milled around in front of the building in which funeral services for the victim, Leon Mosely, of 2260 Watson, were being conducted.

Detroit, Mich.

AFTER THE funeral, at which four preachers presided, a group of about 500 men, women and children marched to the City Hall steps to stage a protest demonstration.

Commissioner Toy, warned in advance that the demonstration was planned by Communists, said:

"American people have the right of assembly; the police will preserve order."

As they neared the City Hall, the marchers chanted, "Toy must go."

Sat. 6-12-48

SEVERAL SPEAKERS, among them Coleman Young, official of the Wayne County CIO Council, demanded that the officer who shot the boy be "jailed for murder," that Toy be ousted and indemnity be paid to the parents of the dead boy.

Mosely, a Miller High School student, was shot by Patrolman Melasi after he failed to heed a warning shot, the original police report stated.

Mosely was driving a stolen car police said, and three times resisted efforts by a scout-car to halt his dash through the East Side. Melasi and Boland finally halted the car at 2247 Waterloo.

* * *

WHEN THE BOY ran from the car and failed to heed the warning shot, Melasi declared, he fired at him.

Lane is investigating conflicting stories which maintain the youth was beaten.

The death of young Mosely marks the fourth time in a year and a half that a juvenile has been slain by police gunfire.

After an investigation at the request of the NAACP, Patrolman Louis Begin, of Trumbull Station, was cleared in the fatal shooting last Oct. 12 of Beverly Lee, 13, a boy who ran from officers investigating a purse-snatching. 6-12-48

Issue Warrant for Cop Who Slew Detroit Negro

Daily Worker

By William Allan

DETROIT, July 5.—Mass pressure of the people, Negro and white, forced the prosecutor's office here to issue and serve a warrant for manslaughter on Patrolman Louis Melasi who shot and killed Leon Mosley, 15-year-old Negro schoolboy, the night of June 4.

Melasi is now out on $2,000 bail. If found guilty, he faces a maximum sentence up to 15 years in the penitentiary. George Gray, chief assistant prosecutor, after meeting with a large delegation of labor, civic and political city leaders, said the shooting of Leon Mosley was a felonious killing and should be sent to Recorders Court for trial by judge and jury. Tues. 7-6-48

Based on Gray's statement that the killing of Mosley was a felonious act, the Committee for Justice for Leon Mosley demanded that a murder charge be placed against Melasi and not the secondary one of manslaughter. Gray refused.

PROTEST RETURN TO DUTY

Indignant citizens went to the Hunt St. precinct police station to protest when they learned patrolman Melasi's partner, John Boland had been returned to duty by police commissioner Harry S. Toy. The delegations demanded a warrant to be issued for the arrest of Bolend, based on assault and battery. 7-6-48

Evidence by physicians at the recent coroner's inquest revealed that Mosley was severely injured, suffering skull fractures and face lacerations which could only have come from brutal beatings. Blood was found on the gun of one of the policemen. Boland admitted on the witness stand that, when he jumped out of the police scout car after Mosley, he had his gun in his hand.

Bolend, according to reports, was involved last summer in a street fracas, where he clubbed a Negro worker.

The Committee for Justice for Leon Mosley, made up of representatives from the Wayne County CIO Council, Michigan Civil Rights Congress, Wallace Progressive Party, Communist Party, Area K organization, Youth for Wallace, groups of UAW locals and half a score of Negro churches, today asked the Detroit City Council for a public hearing to demand the removal of police commissioner Toy.

TOY'S ORDER

The committee demanded Toy's removal on the grounds that his order to police last January tc "shoot" places equal responsibility on his shoulders for Leon Mosley's death. 7-6-48

The committee further demands Council President George Edwards fulfill his pledge made to Negro and white leaders that an open city council hearing be held.

They also demanded from Edwards that he bring a resolution into the council that will have the city pay full indemnities to the family of Leon Mosley.

The trial of patrolman Melasi has been placed on the ordinary court docket. The Mosley Committee is demanding that it not be allowed to drag for months but that it be tried speedily and that Melasi be given the maximum sentence.

Daily Worker Thu. 6-10-48

Slain Lad Beaten, Says Coroner

REVEALS NEGRO YOUTH WAS HALF DEAD BEFORE COPS SHOT HIM

By William Allan

DETROIT, June 9.—Further evidence that Leon Moseley, 15-year-old Negro youth killed last Friday by Detroit police, was almost dead from a terrific beating with blackjacks and gun butts before the fatal shot was fired was revealed today by the coroner's report.

The coroner's report, which is being kept from the press, revealed htat young Moseley, died from skull lacerations, brain hemorrhages body abrasions, multiple lacerations of the face and head and a bullet through the back, going through the fifth rib.

Today a meeting of community and labor leaders decided to organize a mass demonstration at the Detroit City Hall, where the hearse with the body would slowly encircle the building followed by thousands of people.

It was also agreed that a petition be circulated demanding suspension of Patrolmen Louis Meloise and John Bolend, that both of them be placed under arrest by Prosecutor James McNally on a charge of murder, and that the Common Council be petitioned to remove Police Commissioner Harry S. Toy, whose "shoot" order to police resulted in this killing.

TESTIFY COPS BEAT TH

Daily Worker

By William Allan

DETROIT, Mich., June 21.—Evidence piled up today at a coroner's inquest that Leon Mosley, 15-year-old Negro youth shot in the back June 4 by Detroit policeman Louis Melasi, was in addition murderously beaten by gun butts before the fatal shot struck him down.

New York

Three head injuries, a bruised cheek, fractured skull and cerebral hemorrhages, were revealed in the report of the coroner's physician who testified.

Attorneys for the Mosley family, Ernest Goodman, George Crocket, Elvin Davenport and Elvin Weanzo attempted to introduce X-ray pictures taken of the head injuries, but this was ruled out by the coroner.

Tue. 6-22-48

Blood was also found on the gun of patrolman Melasi, testimony of Lieut. Albert Langtry, police scientific expert, showed.

New York City

David Dudley, 18-year-old Negro student at Miller High School, testified he saw five policemen beating Mosley, and that later, when Mosley staggered from the cops, the fatal shot was fired into his back. Miller said that while Mosley lay dying two policemen went up to him, grabbed his lifeless arms and dragged him back to the running board of the patrol car, then dropped him, and he lay there for 15 minutes to half an hour before the ambulance came.

Daily Worker

A jury of three Negroes and three whites is hearing the case. Hundreds are outside the small courtroom that only holds 40 people, with the coroner refusing to move it to a larger place.

2 Negroes Killed By Mississippi Cops

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Wed. 3-3-48

An account of two recent torture-murders of Negroes—one a war veteran—by Mississippi police was made public for the first time yesterday. The United Negro and Allied War Veterans submitted details of the murders and of several brutal beatings of Negro vets to U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark.

The document sent to Clark was described by George Murphy, National Commander of UNAWV as a report by eyewitnesse of the several events, though names of the informants were withheld for their protection.

Murphy ascribed the wave of public brutality to the increased terrorization induced by Governor Fielding Wright's anti-civil rights campaign and by Clark's own "shameless and un-American attempt to destroy the free organization of Negro veterans." Murphy demanded that Clark open an investigation of the killings.

The men murdered by the police were identified as George Thomas, and war veteran Walter Palmer. The report describes a series of events leading up tot he killings.

One story relates how on Feb. 21, in Jackson, J. V. Williams, a young Negro veteran, was arrested in a Negro cafe, on a charge of drunkenness After placing him under arrest the officer pushed him into the street and immediately shot him in the hip, saying he had attempted to escape.

As Williams lay bleeding in the street, the arresting officer joined by several others, proceeded to beat him with pistol butts while he pleaded for mercy. When a crowd of Negroes collected they were driven away under threat of being shot. Wed. 3-3-48

YOUTH SHOT DEAD

On Feb. 13, a one-armed Navy veteran, Leroy McGowan was also arrested in Jackson for alleged drunkenness. McGowan was also attacked by the officer who was later joined by 16 others in the brutal beating at the corner of Amite and North Farish Streets.

"While he was lying unconscious in a pool of blood, one officer stood on his whole arm, while a white civilian used his foot to turn McGowan's limp form over.

At Kosciusko, Feb. 2, George Thomas, a Negro youth, was shot dead by a local cop. Thomas had been arrested for allegedly housebreaking, and the officer claimed he attempted to escape after being arrested. He was shot three times.

That same day, Lacey Futch, a veteran employe of a Kosciusko wholesale firm charges a mob attacked him and another man to whom he gave a lift in the company truck. Wed. 3-3-48

PRESS OMITS NEWS

The incident became known when Futch's employer was called to pick up an abandoned truck. Then the report spread that Futch was a mob victim. His wife and mother called police at Kosciusko, Belzoni, and Durant, who declared they knew of no such incident.

A week later Feb. 8. Futch came home bearing signs of a brutal beating. He related how he escaped a mob, but how a Negro youth riding with him had been caught. Local police believe Thomas to be that man. Local and nearby newspapers omitted reports of the killing a full week. Then a brief notice was printed. Daily Worker

Then on Nov. 15, at Edwards, a village 25 miles from Jackson, Walter Palmer, a veteran, was arrested at a party, and later shot dead by a local officer. His clothing showed he was shot in the back. The officer claimed Palmer attempted to escape. New York, N.Y.

Murphy's letter to Clark, declared that "no preliminary hearings, or official investigations have been made in either of these cases. 3-3-48

The UNAVA leader further charged the violence "follows Mississippi Gov. Fielding Wright's open invitation to violence against constitutional authority, calling for the use of violence" to stop President Truman's civil rights program.

Mon. 3-1-48

By Drew Pearson

TRAGIC unpublicized fact about the President's civil-rights message is that it's creating just what it was aimed to prevent—a new reign of terror against Negroes in some parts of the South. Mon. 3-1-48

Especially in Mississippi, resentment against Truman has been taken out against Negroes. And while the visit of Southern Governors to Washington has made headlines, the race incidents haven't. However, here is what has happened in Mississippi:

The Courier-Journal

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 21.—J. V. Williams, a young Negro veteran, was arrested in a Negro cafe on a charge of drunkenness. Pushed out into the street by the arresting officer, the officer shot him in the hip on the pretext that Williams was trying to escape. After Williams was lying in the street, the arresting officer and several others beat him brutally. His pleas for mercy attracted a large group which blocked all traffic. A police car arrived, Williams was thrown in and driven off.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 13.—Lerow McGowan, a one-arm Negro veteran, started to run when called by a police officer for drunkenness. Overtaken, he was beaten by several uniformed policemen until unconscious and lay for some time in a pool of blood at the corner of Amite and North Farish Street. Louisville, Ky

Kosciusko, Miss., Feb. 2.—George Thomas, a young Negro, was shot to death by a policeman who reported that he arrested him for attempting to break into a white's home. The officer said that en route to the jail, Thomas tried to overpower him, and he shot him. The autopsy showed that Thomas was shot three times, once through the arm, once through the lower body and once through the heart.

The Courier-Journal

Incident No. 2 at Kosciusko occurred on the same day, when Lucey Futch, a young Negro veteran driving a truck for a Jackson wholesale firm, was reported the victim of a mob. On hearing this report, Futch's mother and wife went from Jackson to Kosciusko to find him, but were given the run-around by police. Four days later he escaped and was able to return home, bearing evidence of a brutal beating. Mon. 3-1-48

Louisville, Ky

Traveller Pulled Off Bus, Murdered in Cold Blood

The Worker New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, March 23. —Attorney General Tom Clark was urged by the Southern Negro Youth Congress today to begin a speedy and vigorous investigation of the police killing of an Akron, Ohio, Negro rubber worker. 3-28-48 Sun.

The victim, Samuel Bacon, an employe of the Firestone Rubber Company, was en route to visit relatives at his home in Natchez, Miss., when he was murdered in cold blood by Marshal S. D. Coleman in the Fayette, Miss. pail.

Fayette, county seat of Jefferson County, is a rural town of 907 population on the edge of the cotton-growing delta country.

The AP dispatch reporting the killing stated that Bacon was taken off a bus en route to his home in Natchez "after raising a disturbance and using abusive language," and that he was killed in "self-defense by Coleman, whom he attacked "with an axe that had been left in the jail."

The Southern Negro Youth Congress characterized this "self-defense" story as a "transparent and clumsy cover-up for the barbaric cruelty which is the ingrained habit of Southern Gestapo-cops."

★

The SNYC has a special interest in the case since a daughter of the murdered man, Mrs. Frances Perry, works in the Birmingham office of SSNYC. The organization sent a representative to make an investigation. The Worker

The letter to the Attorney General traced the killing to the agitation against civil rights now being fomented by southern governors.

The letter stated:

". . . This case is one of many instances of mob violence, police brutality and cold-blooded murder that have occurred in the South in recent weeks, especially in Mississippi. New York, N.Y.

"The sincerity of the Administration in its advocacy of civil rights legislation is tested in the case of Samuel Bacon. Sun.

"The Department of Justice has ample authority to move against local law enforcement officials. . . . We demand that the Department of Justice take effective action to prosecute Sheriff Millsap Johnson and Marshall S. D. Coleman and all other police bandits who continue, under cover of law, to murder Negroes with impunity."

In a letter addressed to Gov. Fielding Wright of Mississippi, the SNYC called on the state to bring the murderers of Samuel Bacon to justice. 3-28-48

Mississippian Demands Apology From Pearson

The Advertiser Montgomery, Ala.

KOSCIUSKO, MISS., March 11. —(AP)—Mayor Alton Massey demanded Thursday that Columnist Drew Pearson apologize for "making false charges against the people of Kosciusko."

The mayor said he had forwarded his written demands to Gov. Fielding L. Wright now in Washington for the Southern Governors Conference.

Massey said Pearson in his March 1 Washington Merry-Go-Round column reported a Kosciuskno mob brutally beat a Negro veteran, and that police needlessly shot to death another Negro. Fri. 3-12-48

The mayor added the charges have been investigated and "we know they are not true."

Evidence Of Negro Frees Trigger Happy White Man

The Defender

Sat 10-2-48

NATCHEZ, Miss.—The testimony of a Negro janitor led last week to the acquital of a trigger-happy Mississippi law officer who killed a Negro bus passenger from Michigan "who didn't know his place."

A grand jury investigation forced upon the State of Mississippi by "unfavorable publicity in Northern Negro newspapers" ol

Sat 10-2-48

The height of Niagara Falls, American side, is 167-169 feet.

New Form Of Lynch Terror Strikes Miss.

The Defender

Sat 2-21-48

KOSCUISKO, Miss. — (ANP) — The terror of a new form of lynchings is rapidly speading over Mississippi Negroes. Ths new form of lynchng may be the handling of the victim, charged with an offense by a small crowd that carries out its purpose with great dispatch and secrecy, instead of the large crowd and great publicity formerly attending such events or it may be that the victim is arrested by a law enforcement agent charging that the victim "attempted to escape", "resisted arrest" ,or "attacked an officer of the law".

This new form of lynching is evident in the shooting to death of Wade Hughes last Monday by E. T. Love, a Koscuisko pocileman. News of the shooting of Love did not reach the press and public until the following Saturday.

Policeman Love stated that he was called to arrest the young man for attempting to force his way into a home on the local highway. En route to jail Policeman Love said that Hughes tried to overpower him. The young man was shot several times, one bullet piercing the heart, causing instant dath.

The follinw Tuesday, in Jackson, which is about 90 miles south of Koscuisko and the capitol of the state, reports spread over the city that Lacey Futhch, a young was veteran, had been the victim of a mob who lynched hi min Koscuisko Monday.

Sat 2-21-48

The lynch reports began spreading over the city when the Merchants company there, where he was employed as a truck driver, was called to come to Koscuisko and get the truck which Futch was driving and which had been left on the Koscuisko highway.

Futch left Jackson Monday with a consignment of produce to be delivered at various points between Jackson and Koscuisko, and according to the reports became involved in a fight with a white man .

According to reports, the Merchants company, after obtaining the truck and returning it to Jackson, sent Futch's wife word that he was missing. After nothing was heard from him on Friday, his wife and mother called the sheriff and chief of police at Koscuisko and Durant, both places having been indicated in the reports as the scene of the incident. At both places all law enforcement agencies said that there had been no incident involving Futch nor any other Negro with white people during the week.

Failing to obtain any information from Koscuisko and Durant Law enforcement agents, the family then called upon the Jackson Police department and Hinds County Law enforcement agencies with no better results. Later the Jackson office of the Federa lBeureau of Investigation was asked to investigate. The FBI told the family that it had no authority to start an investigation without orders from Washington and took note of the case.

With the report of the shooting to death of Wade Hughes by a police officer in Koscuisko Monday, it is now believed that Futch escaped. The feeling that Futch's case is the same as the one that led to the shooting to death of Hughes is substantiated by later reports that at least one other Negro man was on the truch with Futch at the time of the fight with the white men.

Another case revealing the rapid spread of terror among Mississippi Negroes and the new form of lynching was the shooting to death of Robert Palmer, a young war veteran, at Edwarsa, Miss., in Mid-November. Palmer was shot to death by a constable who arrested him while he was not on duty. after allegedly disarming the young Negro veteran at a party, he was shot to death by the constable while enroute to jail. Palmer was shot through the back and died almost instantly.

Be Thankful It's Life Judge Tells Slayer

Chicago Defender

Sat 12/11/48

JACKSON, Miss.—Young Buddy McGee was sentenced to life imprisonment on Thanksgiving Day for the shooting of a white nightclub operator nearly a year ago. Judge Hugh B. Gillespie, in delivering the sentence said, "I hope I will not be misunderstood when I say that in receiving this sentence you have as much to be thankful for as any man I know."

The judge's reference was taken to mean that in most cases of killings of white men by Negroes, summary lynching, rather than imprisonment after legal proceedure is the custom in Mississippi.

McGee was convicted of the fatal shooting of Bobbie Booker, white operator of a night club for Negroes last Christmas night, when the two men engaged in a scuffle as Booker attempted to throw McGee out of the club.

Prisoner Killed By Southern 'Law' Officer

The Defender

Sat 3-27-48

Chicago

FAYETTE, Miss. — Another Negro has been killed by a Dixie law officer while he was a prisoner behind bars. He is Samuel Barker, 55, of Akron, Ohio, who was shot to death last Monday.

Another Dixie coroner's jury has returned a verdict clearing a slayer. It was "justifiable homicide".

The killer, Day Town Marshall S. D. Coleman, fired three shots into Barker's body in what he called self-defense. Coleman claimed the prisoner attacked him with an axe, while he was making a routine check of the Jim Crow quarters of the jail.

Taken Off Bus

The slain man, a former resident of Natchez, Miss., was enroute there for a visit when the Fayette marshall arrested him on the complaint of the driver of an interstate bus. The driver said he was profane and showed a lack of respect for the other passengers.

Barker, who was occupying the back seat over the motor, in conformity with southern custom, is said to have complained about the heat. He was also said to have discussed the conditions that forced Negroes into the least desirable segregated section of the bus.

A confidential source in Fayette said that Coleman shot the jailed man because he was supposed to be an "uppity" n---r, who had been "spoiled" by living in the north for several years.

In explaining the shooting, Coleman said Barker had gotten possession of an axe that was stored in the jail with other tools, and attacked him.

13c 1948 Negro by Policemen (Missouri)

Riot Call Quells Mob Of 150 After Killing

The Black Dispatch

ST. LOUIS. Dec. — (NNPA) — The fatal shooting of a colored man by a policeman in a tavern at 2817 Easton Avenue last Friday, and the resulting demonstration by 150 enraged colored customers forced officers to send out a riot call.

Three detectives—Lieutenant Jake Joseph, Sargeant John Sieloff and Guy Livingston—were struck by missiles, including ash trays, knives, beer and whiskey bottles, after they arrived to help five patrolmen who were trying to hold the crowd at bay. About forty officers answered the riot call.

(Mo)

The man killed was identified as James Taylor, 25, years old, formerly of 2710 Thomas street. Police said he fired several shots at Corporal Fred Beckmann and Patrolman Lea Stewart as they walked up to inquire why Taylor was being led, bleeding, from the tavern at 1:25 a. m.

Sat 1-10-48

When Taylor ignored Stewart's command to "drop the gun," the two officers pulled their revolvers and returned the fire, they said. Taylor ran back into the tavern, still shooting, and collapsed.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Police said the tavern was jammed with customers who, not aware of what occurred outside immediately showed hostility and began making threats and throwing objects.

Beckman and Stewart, together with Patrolman Joseph Bischoll, Edgar Schnelting Jr. and Robert Hawkins, stood side by side at the front of the tavern and faced the crowd until assistance was obtained.

Police had gone to the tavern, known as the Silver Slipper, earlier to investigate a report that a man named Taylor had been flourishing a revolver. At the time they could find no one answering the man's description. The five officers had returned. seeking further information, when they saw Taylor emerging.

Two other colored men were wounded in the shooting. They were Willie Douglas, laborer, 2711 Stoddard street, who is in Homer G. Phillips hospital with wounds of the hip and foot, and John Washington, 2915 Lawton Blvd., treated for a wound in the left hip.

Sat 1-10-48

Force and Violence Against the Negro People

Daily Worker

By Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

New York, N.Y.

3-19-48

A WORKING MAN left his home to go to work early one morning. He reported at his place of employment. He went out, possibly for a cup of coffee. He said to his job mates; "Be back in a few minutes." He never came back. His wife, with two young children, awaited his return that night, in vain. No word came from police or hospitals. Finally the next day she called the police. "Yes, they were holding a man who answered her description but she couldn't see him for a few days!"

This was on Jan. 29. She was not allowed to see her husband until Feb. 19. He had been taken by then to a "mental hospital." She was allowed 10 minutes, with a guard present. He had leather handcuffs. His left eye was horribly swollen, his mouth infected. He was rational and asked about the children but was afraid to say much. The next day his brother went. He was in bed, unconscious, his eye now swollen beyond recognition. He was never allowed to tell what happened to him. He died the next day, Feb. 21, 1948.

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IS THIS a mystery thriller? Is it a tale of Berlin under the Nazis rule? A healthy young working man done to death, bruised, beaten, tortured, terrified — a death certificate that glibly states "heart" as cause of death. Was it designed to cover an official Fascist murder in Europe? No, this happened in Camden, N. J.-U.S.A., to a Negro working man—James Harmon.

Page Mr. Truman and his Civil Rights Committee. What about "force and violence?" Page Mrs. Roosevelt and her Human Rights Committee of the UN. Mrs. Constance Harmon wants to know: "What happened to my husband?" Ronnie, 11 years old, and Rickie, three years old, are crying out: "What happened to our father?" They have a right to go for justice beyond Camden, N. J., because three Camden policemen are already under indictment for atrocious assault and battery with intent to kill in the case of Magnes Tinsley beating—another Negro case. **It's Camden, Georgia, Mississippi, Harlem—there is no Mason and Dixon line on violence.**

Mrs. Harmon told her story in a quiet repressed way at a meeting last Saturday, celebrating International Woman's Day, at the Camden Communist Party headquarters. The party is joining with the NAACP and other organizations in demanding a complete investigation of this death of a worker, either from gross negligence or beating and abuse, or both. The Hodcarriers' Union, Local 222 (AFL) of which Mr. Harmon was a member, are demanding a full investigation and appointed a committee of four to press for it officially. Why was he arrested? Where was he assaulted? Why was he held in incommunicado for 25 days? Why was he not given proper medical treatment? What was the cause of death? **What happened to James Harmon?** His union, family, friends and the general public demand answers and will get them. Daily Worker

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MRS. HARMON told how she went to the police, to politicians, to others—without avail. Finally someone suggested the Communist Party. As a result the Sunday Worker of Feb. 29 had a special story by John Norman, our New Jersey representative, followed by another on March 7. 3-1948

Mrs. Harmon paid this tribute to the Communist Party, "I know you can't give me back my husband or my children back their father. But the Communists were the first to believe me that my husband was not a drunkard and was not crazy. You were the first to believe me that something terrible had happened to a working man who goes out to work and never comes back. It's not material and but believing in a person that helps a great deal!" To me these were words of great truth and beauty about the Communist Party. Let our actions always measure up to them.

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A GROUP of Negro women in Toledo, Ohio, also share this faith in the Communist Party today. It **grew out of a small but significant episode. The play Deep Are the Roots** was scheduled there. But advance sales indicated the audiences would be all Negro. A group of Negro women belonging to the Republican Party appealed to their white co-workers to come and were quite dumbfounded to be curtly refused any support.

Someone suggested "See the Communists." After some difficulty they found our organizer, Joe Sokol. They were astonished to find him a very presentable, good-looking, likable young man, not at all like the cartoons portray, and very helpful. Result: at least 15 percent of every audience were white workers and a thoughtful group of Republican ladies who had looked behind "the Iron Curtain," quite lost their taste for the GOP. 3-19-48

I hear some are now investigating the third party candidates. Let us never fail to keep faith with the Negro people—on big or small issues. It is one of our major responsibilities as Communists in the USA—land of Jim-crow and "force and violence" against Negroes. New York,

Slain Negro's Brother Beaten by Brooklyn Cops

Tues. 7-27-48

By Art Shields

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

Joe Milton, Negro worker of 258 S. First St., Brooklyn, said yesterday that detectives savagely beat him with rubber truncheons, after his brother, Willie Milton, a devoted Communist, was murdered by police. Milton said he passed out under the beating. He thought his jaw was fractured for a while..

The young Negro said the torture was inicted in the Bedford Ave. station on the night of July 14 after he had been taken out of his hallway, past the body of his dying brother Willie.

Willie had been shot in the back as he turned his own door knob. He was then finished off in the hallway as Patrolman Peter Kilcommons and John O'Niel kept fairing through the door, the Negro witnesses say. Tues. 7-27-48

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Joe Milton reported the flogging to Mrs. Marian Schleiner, secretary of the Committee for Justice in the Milton Case, after returning to Brooklyn from his brother's funeral in Georgia.

Milton said the plainclothesman cursed him as they beat him. They were trying to get him to confess he started the scuffle in the bar that brought the police, who shot Willie Milton in the back.

Joe Milton will be arraigned in Brooklyn Felony Court at 120 Schermerhorn Street, at 10 a.m. today on a charge of "felonious assault." 7-27-48

William Hughes, another witness to the killing, who was also present in the bar, will be arraigned on the same charge with him.

ARRESTED WEEK LATER

Hughes was arrested in his home at 258 South First Street in a police raid a week after the murder. Police have been visiting the homes of other witnesses in the same house, trying to intimidate the men and women, who saw the killing.

Milton and Hughes will be defended by the Civil Rights Congress. Attorneys Nathan Turetsky and Ralph Powe of 150 Nassau Street, will appear for them today.

The attorneys will also fight to have a similar charge against Willie Milton, expunged from the records.

The murdered man's widow, Irene Milton, will ask Mayor O'Dwyer for punishment of the police killers in a visit to City Hall at 11 a.m. this Thursday. Tues. 7-27-48

Mrs. Milton will be accompanied by Dr. Joseph Kessler, chairman of the Committee for Justice in the Milton Case, and a large delegation.

The delegation will include Simon W. Gerson, who has been designated by the Communist Party to fill the seat in the City Council left vacant by the death of Peter V. Cacchione, Brooklyn Communist.

Many Negro and white trade unionists and other New Yorkers will demonstrate for justice in front of City Hall while the delegation is meeting with O'Dwyer.

Demands for the cops' punishment are being made at meetings on the Milton case are being held in Williamsburg, in the Bedford Stuyvesant area and other parts of Brooklyn.

Killer Cop in Court Against Slain Negro's Brother

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. Wed. 7-2

Wed. 7-28-48

By Art Shields

Patrolman Peter Kilcommons, who shot Willie Milton, Negro Communist, in the back, appeared in Brooklyn Felony Court yesterday morning, with his big .38 caliber service in a holster at his side. The killer cop—a six-footer—was in court as a complaining witness against Joseph Milton, the murdered man's brother.

Daily Worker

Joseph Milton and William Hughes, another witness to the killing, were charged with "felonious assault" in connection with a scuffle in the Valen's Bar at Havemayer and Grand Streets, a few minutes before the murder on the night of July 14. The men were having a goodnight glass of beer when the bartender told them to "drink your beer and get the hell out," they reported.

Willie Milton was shot down on his doorstep at 253 South First Street, a few minutes later more bullets finished him inside the hallway. Wed. 7-28-48

LISTED AS KILLER

Kilcommons is listed on the blotter of the Bedford Avenue station as the killer. Wed. 7-28-48

There was an exciting 10 minutes in court as Attorney Turetsky of the Civil Rights Congress, charged Magistrate Glabocki with unfairness. Glaboski was refusing to postpone the arraignment of the prisoners for a week to give the attorney a chance to interview new witnesses.

Kilcommons was ready to testify against the Negroes. The bartender, who told the Negroes to get out, Charles Kanne[illegible]ck, was present to testify too. Wed. 7-28-48

But the Civil Rights attorney kept protesting against the magistrate's unfairness in a voice that rang through the courtroom. G'abocki finally yielded, and granted the postponement, when Turetsky charged him with showing partiality to the police before. Turetsky had began citing the cases when the magistrate yielded.

Joe Milton had been beaten unconscious by detectives in the Bedford Ave. Police station, the night he was arrested. Wed. 7-28-48

BREAK INTO MEETING

Joe got a shock Monday night when one of the men, who had rubber-hosed him, burst into a defense conference he was attending and began to get tough.

New York, N.Y.

The conference had been called by the Committee for Justice in the Milton Case at the South Third St. Methodist Church at 411 S. Third St., in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. Wed. 7-28-48

About 25 representatives of the American Labor Party, the Civil Rights Congress, trade unions, the Communist Party and other groups had come togehter from the 14th Assembly District to plan action to get the killer punished.

Then two detectives tried to enter. The delegates voted to exclude them. Twenty minutes later the door burst open and a heavy set bald headed detective burst in.

Daily Worker

"I want to know who's here, and what organizations you represent, and what you are going to do," the cop shouted.

He was striding down the aisles towards the chairman's stand as he spoke.

Joe Milton recognized him at once as one of the rubber-hose wielders that bloody night.

Wed. 7-28-48

Leon Mandel, the local ALP secretary, who was charging the meeting, asked the cop what organization he represented.

"I'm doing the questioning," the detective yelled back.

Mandel put the issue up to the delegation. The vote was to send the cop out. He left much chagrined.

The conference is taking steps to bring many Negro and white workers to the demonstration at City Hall at 11 a.m. tomorrow. A delegation headed by Mrs Irene Milton, the murdered man's widow, will call on Mayor O'Dwyer for justice at the same time.

New York, N.Y.

Willie Milton's Killer

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

(13C) N.Y. police

THE spirit of the KKK which seems to animate the actions of certain New York police officials has taken another victim.

(N.Y.)

Willie Milton, young Negro, was shot in the back and killed in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn by a police officer, enraged at the effrontery of a Negro who dares to demand his rights.

Milton was shot as he was making his way up the stairs of his home after a quarrel in a bar in which a Negro-hating bartender tried to kick him and his companions out. Tue. 7-20-48

Officer Peter Kilcommons pumped the fatal bullets into Willie Milton's chest after he had already disabled him by a bullet in his back. Eyewitnesses testify to this horrible fact. Willie Milton was **murdered.**

This paper charges that the spirit of the KKK is being brought to New York City by Police Commissioner Wallander. Wallander has instructed his force to "get tough," to shoot first and ask questions afterward—especially when it concerns a Negro.

Police brutality against Negroes is a **deliberate policy** approved by the highest officials in the city administration, it seems. Daily Worker New York. N.Y.

This paper vows that the murderer of Willie Milton shall be brought to justice. 7-20-48

Commissioner Wallander must be compelled to bring officer Kilcommons to trial for the killing of a defenseless, unarmed and innocent Negro whose sole "crime" was his refusal to be kicked out of a bar by an un-American bigot. We urge the formation of a citizens' committee to prevent this case from sinking into the oblivion which the killer hopes will hide his crime.

Say 2d Cop Involved In Slaying of Negro

(13C) N.Y. police

(N.Y.)

Daily Worker. N.Y. N.Y.

By Art Shields

Eyewitnesses say a second Brooklyn cop should face a jury in the killing of Willie Milton, young Negro auto mechanic, and Communist Party member, who was shot in the back on his door step in the Williamsburg section last week. Patrolman Peter Kilcommons is listed on the blotter of the Bedford Ave. station as the cop, who killed Milton. Wed

But eyewitnesses tell me Patrolman John O'Niel also helped to shoot up Milton's home at 258 S. First St., Brooklyn.

"I saw O'Niel firing through the glass door as Milton staggered inside, with a bullet in his back," said Robert Lee Foust, of 262 S. First St. one of Milton's Negro neighbors and friends.

"I saw O'Niel shooting, too," said Milton's 13-year-old son, Eugene, who watched the tragedy with horror-stricken eyes from the sidewalk on the other side of the crowded street at 10 p. m. last Wednesday. 7-21-48

SAW O'NIEL SHOOT

Little 11-year-old Leroy Goodwin, spoke up next.

"I saw O'Niel firing at Mr. Milton that night. He helped the other cop chase him all the way from the Valen's bar at Havemeyer and Grand Sts. I was getting a popsicle at that corner when the cops began running and shooting."

Another witness tells me that he saw O'Niel taking out his spent shells as he stood in the hallway with Kilcommons alongside the wounded Negro, whose life was gushing out from three slugs in his back and chest.

And it's plain to anyone that one cop's cartridge clip couldn't have supplied all the shot that were fired that murderous night.

COUNTS BULLETS

This writer counted five bullet markings in the marble panelings, plaster and door jambs on the ground floor hallway, where bullets went wild.

Three slugs lodged in Willie Milton's body. Wed.

Several more whistled by on Havemeyer and First Streets during the police chase.

Mrs. Esther Chance, young Negro woman neighbor, from No. 262, says O'Niel cringed when she denounced him for his part in the killing. 7-21-48

O'Niel pushed her back when she ran in to help the wounded men, she told me. And she shouted back in his face:

"Why do you police kill an unarmed man in his own hallway. I tell you what we colored people are going to do: we're going to get you thrown off the force and punished."

O'Niel backed up and begged her not to "make it hard for me," she said.

Mrs. Mary Goodwin, Leroy's mother, also made the cop cower from a furious tongue lashing in the hallway that night.

These women say that will not permit the police to whitewash O'Niel. I was told at the Bedford Ave. station that O'Niel had merely taken part in the chase and the subsequent arrest of Willie Milton's brother Joe. But the Negro people say otherwise.

Joe Milton will be home from his brother's funeral in Georgia this weekend. He will be arraigned on a "felonious assault" charge in Brooklyn Felony Court in two weeks. The charge was brought by the bartender at the Valen's place. A scuffle had followed when the Negroes resented the bartender's order to "drink your beer and get the hell out," a few minutes after they entered the place. The Negroes were sober, police admit.

Mrs. Goodwin and Mrs. Chase and other S. First St. Negro people helped organize a humming defense committee for Joe Milton Monday night. New York

COMMITTEE SET UP

The new Williamsburg Committee for Justice in the Milton case is headed by Dr. Joseph Kessler, chairman of the Wallace for President Committee of the 14th Assembly District and American Labor Party candidate for the State Assembly.

The ALP, the Wallace Committee, the Communist Party, the Williamsburg Tenants and Consumers Council, in which Milton had been active; the American Youth for Democracy, the Young Jewish Fraternal Order and other people's groups, helped set up the committee. Wed. 7-21-48

Sound truck meetings, demonstrations, delegations to Mayor O'Dwyer, demanding punishment of the guilty cops, will follow.

The Bedford-Stuyvesant section of the Party is holding a dozen open air meetings and two mass street parades this week . . . The first parade comes tomorrow night. The section has already distributed 5,000 copies of a leaflet. Many thousands of Willie Milton leaflets were also distributed by the Williamsburg Party section. Thousands of extra copies of the Daily Worker are being sold.

Carolinians Sue Rochester, N. Y. For $40,000.00

Journal & Guide

(13c)

Norfolk, Va.

Special to Journal & Guide

ROCHESTER, N. Y. — Relatives of Roland T. Price, 19-year-old youth, formerly of Greensboro, N. C., have put in a claim for $40,000 damages against the city of Rochester and six policemen in connection with the fatal shooting Nov. 6 of the youth. 1-17-49

The suit was filed in city court by Price's aunt, Elizabeth Rogers. Price was shot to death by six policemen after he had become involved in an argument in a downtown restaurant. Coroner D. H. Atwater held the policeman acted in line of duty.

Mayor Dodges Widow of Negro Slain by B'klyn Cop

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Fri. 7-30-48

By Art Shields

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But Mayor O'Dwyer ducked the widow and son, Eugene, who was with her. He stayed home at Gracie Mansion to avoid meeting the murder issues, although he had been notified several days before that the family and their friends were coming to see him to ask for justice.

The mayor had gotten 150 postcards, 30 letters and 50 telegrams about the case, one of his secretaries reported.

"All of them protested what they termed 'police brutality,'" the secretary said. All came from labor organizations, she added.

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Among signers of the letter were Rev. Herald Swezy, Mrs. Minneola Ingersoll, Mrs. Edward L. Cleveland, Mr. Ada B. Jackson, Leo J. Linder, chairman of the Kings County ALP executive committee, and Dr. Harry Tirsch.

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13c 1948 Negroes by Policemen (New York--Freeport--Ferguson)

Sharpshooter

13c

Mon. 1-5-48 Daily Worker New York, N.Y

THE cop, Anton Romeika, who shot down a Negro war veteran in Freeport, New York, has just been awarded a prize for sharpshooting.

Romeika snuffed out the life of Charles Ferguson, soldier in uniform, in a dispute over a Jimcrow insult. A Dewey-dominated probe generously acquitted him of all guilt. Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Mon. 1-5-48

Now that the killer of Ferguson has been awarded a medal, it only remains to give a suitable prize to the South Carolina cop who gouged out the eyes of the Negro vet, Isaac Woodard, with a blackjack. Mon. 1-5-48

And let us not forget a gift for the mob that murdered the Negro vet as he sat on his front porch because he had cast the only Negro vote in his county.

When the Third Party movement challenges the hideous brutality of this Jimcrow system which neither of the old parties dares to challenge, the Negro people understand its language. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Man Was Clubbed By Two Policemen Alleging Escape Try

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 7-24-48

GREENVILLE, N. C.—(ANP)—Two policemen here posted bonds of $1,500 each in connection with the death of a man who died in a hospital after being picked up in their patrol car last week.

The dead man is James Bert, 23, who died at Greenville Hospital. The officers were radio patrolmen S. C. Kelley and R. C. Woodal.

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The policemen picked up Bert and, according to Kelley's story to J. H. Jennings, chief of police, he "drew a knife" on Kelley as they were about to enter the automobile. The officer claimed that he then struck Bert with his fist, then clubbed him.

The prisoner then fled, he said, then was stopped when he ran into a chain surrounding a used car lot. Bert was taken to the police station, then to the hospital. There his condition was critical until he died. 7-24-48

Coroner J. O. Turner has ordered a further medical examina- [illegible] dead man's body. [illegible] survived by [illegible] three brothers.

Police Post Bond After Prisoner Dies

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

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Dies After Ride In Police Buggy

Amsterdam News
N.Y., N.Y. Sat. 7-31-48

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Trigger Happy Dixie Officer Freed In Slaying Of Teenager

The Defender

CARTHAGE, N. C.—A trigger-happy police officer was exonerated here Monday for the fatal shooting of a Negro youth. Sat. 7-3-48

A coroner's jury acquitted Night Policeman Hugh Struder for killing Edward Earl Ray, 19-year old youth in the business section of Carthage.

Struder shot the youth in th head for allegedly failing to hal when commanded to do so. The officer said Ray failed to halt when [illegible] near a local department sto with an armful of goods. Chicago, Ill.

The youth died early Saturday morning.

Negro Dies Of Injuries; Police Bonded

The Record
Columbia, S.C.

GREENVILLE, July 13—Two Greenville officers posted bonds of $1,500 each here yesterday after a Negro died of injuries in the Greenville General hospital here yesterday morning.

A Negro listed as James Bert, 23, died in the hospital and later in the day Radio Patrolman S. C. Kelley and R. C. Woodall of the Greenville police department posted signed bonds. 7-13-48

Coroner J. O. Turner ordered a further medical examination of Bert's body and announced that an inquest would be held Friday at 3 p. m.

Kelley reported to Chief of Police J. H. Jennings that Bert attempted to draw a knife on him Saturday night when he was putting him in a police car following Bert's arrest. Kelley said he hit Bert with his fist, then with a wood club. Tues,

The Negro, Kelley said, jumped out of the police car and fled. The Negro was stopped when he ran into a chain surrounding a used car lot, the officer reported. 7-13-48

Bert was carried to police headquarters, then to General hospital where his condition was listed as critical until he died. He was treated there for head injuries.

Two Officers Held In Death Of Negro

Record

Times 7-22-48

GREENVILLE, July 20 — Two Greenville officers allegedly responsible for the death of a Negro prisoner a week ago today faced murder charges brought by the Negro's father.

The two—Patrolmen S. C. Kelley and R. C. Woodall—were charged with murder in a warrant issued on the complaint of Odell Burts father of the dead man, James Burts, 23. Columbia S.C.

A coroner's jury last Friday had released the two policemen by returning a verdict, that Burts had died from injuries he received when he fell over a fence while fleeing from the police. Tue. 7-20-48

Convict Killed After S. C. Jail Guard Is Slain

Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa

13C

FLORENCE, S. C.—(ANP)— A prisoner, James Taylor, 29, was shot and killed in the local jail in a cell gun battle in which he shot and killed one white policeman and injured two others, one seriously. Sat, 1-31-48

The dead officer was Grady Marton, 29, and the injured were Sgt. G. M. Bailey, 72, shot in the face and shoulder, and Officer R. S. Bellamy, slightly wounded.

Taylor, who is from Newark, was in the local jail voluntarily, giving himself up to authorities, saying he had committed a robbery. Police Chief Julian A. Price described him as quiet and well-behaved.

According to the chief, the action started when Sergeant Bailey went to quiet Taylor, who was banging on the cell bars and screaming. As the prisoner grabbed the sergeant's gun, Officer Martin came to his aid. Bellamy came in when he saw Taylor with the gun.

Taylor killed Martin, critically wounded Bailey and nicked Bellamy before the latter killed him.

The chief said the prisoner was being held for Newark police after admitting he had robbed a friend, Coy Perkins.

All-White Jury Frees Officers In Arrest-Slaying

Daily World

GREENVILLE, S. C.—(SNS)— An all-white jury freed two officers here Friday who had been charged with beating a 23-year-old Negro to death after arresting him on July 10. Sat 10-30-48

A repeat of South Carolina brand of justice was seen when it was pointed out that the two accused officers were freed in the same courtroom where 30 other white defendants were acquitted in a mass lynch trial 18 months ago on charges of removing a Negro from jail and shooting him to death. Atlanta, Ga.

The officers freed Friday were S. C. Kelley and R. C. Woodall who was on trial in the death of James Burts who died of head injuries after his arrest. The charges had been brought by the dead man's father.

In their defense the officers said Burts suffered fatal injuries when he fell while trying to escape.

Overseas Veteran Shot By Memphis Policeman

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (SNS) — Another Negro citizen of Memphis was killed by local police officers early last Friday evening.

He was James Mosby, 23, ex-GI, with service over-seas, and the time of his death, an employe of the city, working on a garbage disposal unit. He was the father of two small daughters, one 17 months old, and the other 6 months old. He met his death in the presence of his 20-year old wife, who was protesting as he was killed, and almost in sight of his little daughters, who were being cared for by their grandmother as the altercation occurred. He was killed in the yard of his residence at 429 carpenter street in Binghamton.

Tues 8-24-48

According to accounts given to Robert Mosby, his father, who lives at 475 Lipford, by eye-witnesses, James had had a fight with his wife, Mrs. Willie Mae Mosby. Someone called the police. When the officers arrived the fight was over. Mosby and his wife were still on the scene. The officers began a routine investigation. The father said he was told that the officers asked what Mrs. Mosby wanted them to do with her husband. She told them "Nothing." But the mother-in-law (her mother), Mrs. William Butler, is said to have insisted on his arrest. The father said he "heard" that the officers started to question his son, but that the youth was slow in answering questions directed to him. He said one of the officers was said to have struck the boy, knocking him down. He said he heard that his son started to resist, and was shot to death by the younger of the two officers.

Still another version of the killing was given by Mrs. Butler, mother-in-law, when she was interviewed over the telephone by a Memphis World reporter. Mrs. Butler said she was in the house nursing her grandchildren when the police arrived following the fight between her daughter and son-in-law. She said she did not know who called the officers. She said that her son-in-law started walking out of the house when the officers started to enter. When they sought to question him, she said he refused to answer and would not talk to them. At this point one of the officers struck him. Then, she reported, young Mosby jumped on the officer and started a scuffle. In the midst of the fight one of the officers shot him. She said her daughter, Willie Mae, started screaming when her husband was struck the first blow.

Tues 8-24-48

Still another version of the affair is furnished by a publicized police report written by Inspectors who said that Mosby had sunk his teeth into the forearm of Nolan in a struggle when the policeman pumped two bullets into his stomach.

The shooting occured at Mosby's residence at 429 Carpenter, after Cpl. Nolen and Patrolman J. C. Coats answered a fight call to the address.

Mrs. Lucy Mosby, of the Lipford address, stated that "They had beaten him up with a blackjack, I got there just after he was shot, but they wouldn't let me in. They drove me back like a dog and said, "You get on back out of here. . . . I ought to have shot him in the head. . . he was no good."

Cpl. Nolan and Patrolman Coats were quoted in the police report as saying that they were attempting to break up a fight between Mosby and his wife. . . . "Nolan grabbed Mosby and told him to get in the squad car, the report stated. "Coats was talking to Willie Mae. Mosby tried to get back attempting to run over Nolen. . . Nolen shoved him back to the car, but Mosby came back at him and started fighting" Nolen when Coats came to his ......Mosby allegedly seized Cpl. partner's rescue and broke his night stick over Mosby's head......Coats was left with only the short end of the night stick, and Mosby picked up the long end and turned on him (Coats), ~~hitting him~~ on the top of his left hand and breaking a knuckle"......it was then, the report said, that Mosby bit Officer Nolen on the arm between the wrist and elbow, and held on. "Nolen said he couldn't get loose from Mosby's teeth and that he raised his revolver and shot twice, the bullets hitting Mosby in the stomach," the report states.

Mosby's body was taken to John Gaston Hospital in a J. O. Patterson Funeral Home ambulance, with Bill Taylor and John Waller, Patterson attendants in charge. They said Mosby was pronounced dead on arrival at John Gaston Hospital.

Tues 8-24-48

Still another, and unconfirmed version of the causes behind the Mosby shooting is running rife in the Binghamton community. The basis of the version is such as not to allow of publication until further investigation. But, it is the version which most residents of the Binghamton neighborhood are hearing and spreading.

Shades Of Bloody Elaine Race Riot-Two Men Slain, One Deputy, In Gun Duel

Memphis Press

Fri 7-9-48

Memphis Press

Near the scene of the bloody Elaine race riots twenty-five years ago transpired last week another tragic racial incident that brought death to a Negro and a white man. Shot in an exchange of shots at close quarters were Herman Dolphin, 22-year-old storekeeper, and well known young merchant in Phillips County; and a deputy sheriff, L. D. Weaver, 28 of Helena, Arkansas

Reports were to the effect that Dolphin, while handcuffed, shot Weaver to death at his place of business and he in turn was fatally shot by Weaver's partner, Deputy Clay Oliver. The two officers had taken Dolphin back to his place of business a combination filling station and store, following the young man's arrest as the result of an altercation he had had with a white planter.

Press reports Sheriff Ed Hickey's account of the incident as follows:

"Dolphin, under arrest and with handcuffs on his wrists, was permitted to re-enter his combination filling station stort to turn off a refrigerator.

He grabbed a pistol from a coat hanging on a wall and opened fire. Weaver was struck, and in an exchange of shots with Deputy Clay Oliver, Dolphin was slain. Oliver was not injuried.

The deputies had arrested Dolphin on complaint of a planter that Dolphin, incensed at being called "boys", threatened him with a pistol. The shooting happened at Lake View, about 15 miles south of Helena, ~~near~~ the scene of the bloody Elaine race riots.

Fri 7-9-48

Milton Stewart, Helena planter, said he stopped at Dolphin's store and asked three Negroes there to help him repair a trailer. The sheriff said the planter used the word "boys" in requesting help. Dolphin replied there weren't any boys there, went into his store and later threatened Stewart with a pistol. Stewart reported the incident to Hickey.

The sheriff then sent Weaver and Oliver with Stewart to Lake View. Stewart identified Dolphin and the officers arrested him.

When informed of the shooting, the sheriff and three cars of officers armed with machine guns and side-arms, went to the scene. After an investigation, they returned. The The sheriff said that he did not expect further trouble.

13c 1948

Negroes by Policemen (Texas)

GUARD SHOOTS DEFENSELESS NEGRO IN TEXAS PRISON

Daily Worker New York N.Y.

Fri 3-26-48

SUGAR LAND, Texas, March 25 (UP).—O. B. Ellis, manager of the Texas prison system, said today that guards had no justification for shooting into the midst of a group of prisoners and killing a Negro last night.

The trouble began when 200 prisoners at the Central Prison Farm here refused to eat their evening meal.

Ellis said guards fired tear gas shells into the dining room. The prisoners rushed to the windows for air.

"The guards apparently became excited in the turmoil and began firing into the mob," he said. "There was no justification for the shooting, however, so far as I can learn."

One of the shots killed Ernest Williams, 22, who was serving a 10-year term for burglary.

3-26-48

Courthouse Slaying Termed Cold Blooded Murder by Witnesses

Chicago Ill

NACOGDOCHES, Texas.—In what is believed to be the first instance of its kind in the history of Texas, the grand jury currently sitting in this East Texas town this week returned a first degree murder indictment against a white peace officer for the murder of a Negro.

The unprecedented grand jury action named Constable Travis Helpinstill of Nacogdoches as the first degree murderer of Ellis Hutson, Sr., last March 13 in a corridor of the courthouse building when the latter, in the company of his wife, Mrs. Charlene Hutson, attempted to make bond for his son who the night before had been jailed by the constable on an assault charge.

According to eyewitnesses, **Helpinstill had become infuriated because the elder Hutson had declined to pay a $40 fine, out of which the constable received a certain percentage, and had drawn his gun and shot the Negro through the body three times, killing him almost instantly.**

Aided By Investigation

Acting for the state before the grand jury was District Attorney Ward Burke of Lufkin. A large part of the evidence he presented in securing the indictment was unearthed as a result of on-the-scene investigations made by Donald Jones, NAACP regional secretary, and Otto Mullinax, Dallas attorney, who came to Nacogdoches for this purpose several days after commission of the crime.

Helpinstill, it was revealed, had a long standing reputation as a "bad man." During the several months preceding the killing of Hutson the constable is alleged to have beaten a Negro minister of his town with such severity that **he was confined to the hospital for several months; whipped a Negro ex-soldier named Turner White so that he also was compelled to spend an extended period in a hospital; and shot a white woman riding in an automobile when the driver of the car did not immediately heed his cry to halt.**

A special venire of 160 jurors has been subpoenaed for the Helpinstill trial, which was slated to begin June 7. Meanwhile Helpinstill has resigned and has announced that he will not be a candidate for reelection as constable.

Seek Ouster of Killer Cop After Beating of Negro

The Worker Sun 12-5-48 (13c)

New York N.Y. Texas

HOUSTON.—Publicity on the recent beating of Homer Benton, 31-year-old steel worker of the Wallisville Road area, has exposed the use of outright terror against the Negro people by the Houston police and sheriff's department. Benton was beaten twice in one night in the vicinity of his home. There was apparently no reason for the beatings other than the storm-trooper white supremacy ideas of the two deputies.

HOMER BENTON

Benton identified one of the deputies as A. K. Shipley. In a statement to the Houston **Informer**, leading Negro newspaper in Texas, Lieutenant Martindaye said that further investigation was being made into the report, but expressed doubt that Deputy Shipley was involved. **Shipley has the reputation of killing, not beating, according to Martindale, and he could not understand how he could do that much beating and not kill the man.**

Early this year, Shipley killed a Negro in the Trinity Gardens area. More recently, Shipley killed Jim Lee, nephew of a prominent Negro physician and surgeon, out in the Settigest addition.

★

HOMER BENTON, latest victim of Shipley, was standing in front of a tavern when the two deputies called him over to their car: "N——, come here." Both of the deputies beat Benton and told him to go home. Later in the evening, when Benton was on his way to a hospital, he was again beaten by the deputies. When he finally arrived at the hospital, Benton had to have three stitches taken in his head.

Two days after the beating, Benton tried to present his case before the Grand Jury, but was shunted off to the Sheriff's Department by an attendant. Benton was told he would be called and told when he could appear before the Grand Jury.

Sun 12-5-48

The Communist Party of Houston is asking that citizens of Harris County to write or visit Sheriff Neal Polk, and demand that Deputy Shipley be fired immediately. Demands for a Grand Jury investigation should be directed to District Attorney A. C. Winborn.

ISKEGEE INST.
RDS INST.
INST. #RES.
AP

Advertiser Montgomery Thu. 3-11

Advertiser, Montgomery, Ala

HE'S HELD FOR DEATH OF NEGRO.—Horace M. Miller, 20-year-old civilian mechanic at Brookley Army Air Forces base, sits in jail at Mobile, Ala., awaiting arraignment for the death of a Negro he beat in an argument over President Truman's civil rights program. Miller admitted hitting and kicking the Negro, Rayfield Davis, 53, but claimed he did not know of his death until he read about it in a newspaper netx day. (AP Photo.) Thu. 3-11-48

Admits Fatal Beating In Civil Rights Dispute

The News 3-9-48

Birmingham, Ala.

MOBILE, Ala., March 9—(AP)—Detective Capt. Tally Rollings said today a 20-year-old white mechanic had signed a statement that he administered a fatal beating to a Mobile Negro during an argument over President Truman's civil rights program.

Rollings said the mechanic, Horace M. Miller, stated he fought with the Negro, Rayfield Davis, last Sunday night, but that he did not know about Davis' death until he read about it in the paper the next day. Tues 3-9-48

Rollings said both men were civilian employes at the Brookley Aair Force Base here.

The detective said that Miller, accompanied by his attorney, surrendered at police headquarters early today and dictated a statement.

Mississippians Collect Money For Mobilian

The Advertiser

JACKSON, MISS., March 11.—(AP)—A defense fund is being collected here for Horace M. Miller, 20-year-old white mechanic held in Mobile, Ala., in the death of a Negro.

Miller, held on a general charge, was reported by Detective Captain Tally Rollings as having confessed he beat the Negro to death after an argument over President Truman's civil rights program.

The Jackson Daily News received a telephone call Thursday from T. C. O'Briant, operator of a cafe at Durant, saying that $75 had been raised by donations to defend Miller. O'Briant said the money would be used for attorneys fees. Montgomery, Ala.

Miller has not been charged with the Negro's death. He will be given a preliminary hearing March 16. Fri. 3-12-48

Contributions Gathered in Negro's Death

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

JACKSON, Miss., March 11—(AP)—A restaurant operator at Durant, Miss., reported Thursday that contributions are being gathered there for a white man held in connection with the death of a Negro at Mobile. Fri 3-12-48

Mobile authorities said he was being held on a general charge and had not been charged with the Negro's death.

The two had been arguing over President Truman's civil rights program. Fri-3-12-48

Thursday the Jackson Daily News received a telephone call from T. G. O'Briant, operator of a cafe at Durant, saying that $75 had been raised by donations.

The money, he said, is to be used for payment of attorney's fees. Atlanta Constitution

O'Briant said the collection was started after residents of Holmes County had read the account of the Mobile incident in the Daily News Wednesday. Atlanta, Ga.

Slayer Held In $2,500 Bond For Bludgeoning

MOBILE, Ala.—(SNS)— A murder case unparalleled in the annals of the South as to motive was headed for the Mobile County Grand Jury Thursday. The whole bizarre affair stemmed from the murder of Rayfield Davis, 52--year-old civilian worker at the Brookley Army Air Field by Horace Miller, 20-year-old white man, allegedly in anger over the President's Civil Rights legislation. Daily World

The whole fantastic and almost incredible story hinges on the fabric that Miller blungeoned Davis to death after the later had offered him a drink, and when he rejected the invitation an argument ensued over the civil rights program. Atlanta, Ga.

Preliminary hearing on the case before Recorder Court Judge William M. Bekurs resutled in Miller's being held under $2,500 bond.

"RIGHTS" ISSUE MOTIVE

A statement signed by the accused slayer and read at the hearing gave the "rights' issue as motive.

Testimony by Assistant State Toxicologist Nelson E. Grubbs revealed that Davis death cause was shock induced by beating and two old head wounds. Fri. 3-19-48

Grubbs claimed a chemical analysis of the blood showed Davis was "intoxicated sufficiently to stagger and speak with blurred speech."

Testifying a charatcer witness for Miller were his mother, and brother, both of Meridian, Miss. Several residents of that community were heard.

Witnesses testified that Miller had been drinking. He admitted having had a "few beers."

Youth Admits Slaying Negro In Row On Rights

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Mobile, Ala., March 9 (AP)—A young white airplane mechanic confessed today he beat a Negro to death in an argument over President Truman's civil-rights program, Detective Capt. Tally Rollings said. Louisville, Ky. Wed

Dr. H. S. Walker, County coroner, said the Negro, Rayfield Davis, 53, had been "badly beaten." Dr. Walker returned a verdict of murder.

The mechanic, Horace M. Miller, handsome 20-year-old former Air Forces soldier, surrendered to Mobile police. He signed a statement that he beat the Negro with his fists and kicked him in a dispute over racial equality, Rollings said.

Called Good Worker.

Miller said the Negro told him, "President Truman is our good friend and he will give us our equal rights." 3-11-48

"He was at that time referring to the civil-rights program being published by our President," the confession stated.

Both men were civilian employees at Brooklyn Air Force Base here. Their foreman said they were both good workers and never had discussed the racial question during working hours.

Preliminary hearing for Miller was set today for next Tuesday. He is being held in Mobile City Jail on a general holding charge, without bond. Louisville Ky

In his confession Miller said he and Davis alighted from a bus Sunday night. Davis, whom he said he had not known previously, approached him with the greeting, "Hey, Buddy," and invited him to his house for a drink.

Miller said Davis started to talk about racial equality and the civil-rights program. 3-10-48

"This sort of talk kept making me madder and I struck him once with my bare left hand and he fell to the sidewalk," Miller added. The Courier-Journal

Miller said that when Davis started to fumble in his coat pocket for what he thought was a knife or a gun, he kicked him several times and left him lying on the ground. Wed 3-10-48

He said he did not know about the Negro's death until he read about it in the paper yesterday.

POISON

The Advertiser

A 20-year-old Mobile mechanic has killed a Negro with his bare hands in a quarrel over President Truman's Civil Disturbance program. The Negro had said the President will "give us our equal rights." Thereupon the white man mauled him to death.

That is what is meant by Southern leaders when they try to show the F.E.P.C. advocates that enactment of this nostrum would be vicious and would crucify the colored man. Montgomery, Ala. Thurs. 3-11-48

State Offers Reward For Slayer Of Negro

The Advertiser

Montgomery

Ala.

The state offered $200 reward Tuesday for a solution to the mysterious killing of an Autauga County Negro.

Circuit Solicitor Winston Huddleston said the body of Jake Davis, alias Gabe Davis, was found June 30 in a crudely dug grave in Autauga County. He said a Negro is under suspicion as the slayer but apparently has fled the state. Wed. 7-14-48

Jury in Mobile Protects White Killer of Negro

Daily Worker

MOBILE, Ala., April 26.—An all-white Mobile County grand jury last week refused to indict a white man who killed a Negro after an argument over the President's Civil Rights report. New York

The killer, Horace M. Miller, 20, confessed that on March 7 he beat and kicked to death Rayfield Davis, 53. A coroner's report said the victim's skull was crushed as though a bludgeon was used. Tues.

The Negro community and many local white persons were shocked when it was discovered the grand jury failed to return a true bill of particulars against Miller upon making its report to Circuit Court Judge Claude A. Grayson. 4-27-

Although news of the racist murder spread throughout the South, the killer did not surrender until two days after the slaying. Police had not bothered to apprehend him. He was bound over the grand jury several weeks ago, after a recorder's court hearing, and was released under $2,000 bail.

Miller's friends, it is reported, are throwing a banquet for him for his "terrible ordeal," according to local gossip. 4-27-48

The Mobile National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has sought a new warrant for Miller.

Mobile's Grand Jury Disgraces Law And Order

Defender
Chicago, Ill.

Holds Negro's Life Cheaply In Refusal To Indict Killer

Sat. 4-24-48

MOBILE, Ala.— An open season on the lives of Negroes was feared here this week as an all white Mobile County grand jury refused to indict a white killer of a Negro in this city's much publicized civil rights murder case.

13C

The white defendant, Horace M. Miller, 20, held for the murder of a 53-year-old Rayfield Davis, was freed by lack of grand jury action. Many white citizens here who believe in fairness and justice were shocked along with the Negro population when it was disclosed that a true bill against Miller had not been returned when the jury made its report to circuit Court Judge Claude A. Grayson.

SIGNED CONFESSION

In a signed confession to Mobile police Miller admitted that he fatally beat the frail Negro March 7 during a dispute over President Truman's Civil Rights program. While Miller said he beat Davis to death with his fists and by "kicking him several times," an examination of the body indicated a bludgeon had been used in the killing.

Miller did not surrender to police until March 9, two days later. He had been bound over to the grand jury on a murder charge several weeks ago following a hearing in recorder's court. He was released at the time on $2,500 bond. Sat. 4-24-48

Latest reports are that Miller's friends have planned a banquet for him to relieve him of the "terrible ordeal" he has passed through since he crushed Davis' skull with a bludgeon.

The local branch of the NAACP sought Monday to secure a new warrant for Miller, hoping to bring the case back into court, but the killer's friends were hiding him, or had sent him out of town until the banquet night.

Sharecropper's Slayer Free Under $1,000 Bond

The Courier - Sat 9-18-48
Pittsburgh, Pa 13C

MONROEVILLE, Ala.—A white farmer who killed a Negro sharecropper Saturday night because the latter intimated he was being cheated in a settlement, Monday, was bound over to the fall term of the Monroe County Grand Jury under a $1,000 bond.

The white man, William R. Wiggins, 40, was released on the small bond by Probate Judge E. T. Millsap, although charged with murder.

VICTIM UNARMED

Wiggins fatally shot John White, about 35, in a dispute over a crop settlement. The usual Dixie feudal system bookkeeping which invariably shows the tenant being indebt to the white landlord, figured in the murder.

The preliminary hearing was held before Judge Millsap. Wiggins entered a plea of self-defense.

Sheriff E. E. Nicholas, who investigated the killing and arrested Wiggins, said the white farmer and the Negro sharecropper, became involved in an argument over a bale of cotton.

Wiggins claimed he shot White to keep from being attacked by the colored man, who was unarmed.

One Killed, Another Hurt In Wild Gun Fray

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., Dec. 6—(AP)—One Negro man was killed and another critically wounded late yesterday afternoon in a shooting affray and dispute at a rural grocery store 10 miles south of Tuscaloosa. Deputy Sheriff Elmer Brewer said today. The dead man was identified as Oliver Daniel, 40, of Hulls. The wounded was Flynn Pickens, 32, of Taylorville.

Brewer said information given him indicated the following transpired: Mon. 12-6-48

* * *

A TRUCKLOAD of five Nigroes, apparently all of whom had been drinking, stoppe dat the store of Charles W. Carpenter, 68-year-old white man, at Hulls. One Negro, Pickens, walked into the store and demanded that Carpenter sell him some cigarets. Carpenter said the Negro was insolent, demanding immediate attention although another customer was being waited upon at the time.

Carpenter ordered the Negro out of the store, and the latter departed saying "I'm going to get my gun." The Negro returned reaching into his coat as if to get a gun. Carpenter then fired a .38 revolver twice, the first bullet missing the man and the second hitting him in the stomach, wounding him. Three of the Negro's companions carried him to the truck and sped away.

The fifth Negro, Daniel, staggered into the store "very drunk" and said "if anybody got hurt I'll get my gun." He was taken out of the store by a white man. The Negro went to his home, a quarter of a mile away, and returned with a .22 rifle. Mon. 12-6-48

When about 100 yards from the store he opened fire, hitting the store with one bullet and Carpenter's home with another.

Two white men returned the fire, one with a .22 pistol and one with a .38 rifle. One of the bullets struck the Negro, who lurched off the highway into a ditch, where his body was found later.

Deputy Brewer said no arrests had been made pending completion of investigation.

Mechanic, 20, Freed in Ala.

Wife, Mother Doubt 'Equality' Argument

Afro American
Sat 4-24-48

MAY REOPEN CASE

Baltimore Md.

'Race Riot at Airfield' During War Recalled

MOBILE, Ala.—Horace M. Miller, 20, a white airplane mechanic who has been under $2,500 bond since March 17 last, charged with the fatal beating of Rayfield Davis, 53, on March 7 during a feud over the President Truman's civil rights program, escaped trial last Friday when the county grand jury refused to indict him.

Sat 4-24-48

State Solicitor Carl M. Booth said the jury's action freed Miller, a native of Mississippi, who, with his victim, was formerly employed at the Brookley Air Force base.

Admits Beating

Det. Capt. Talley Rollings said Miller signed a statement that he beat Davis with his fists and then kicked him. The victim's badly-beaten body was found in a ditch and Miller surrendered to police two days later.

The mechanic said the trouble started when Davis approached him as both alighted from a bus with the greeting, "Hey, Buddy," and invited him to his house for a drink.

Sat 4-24-48

Riled by 'Equality Talk

Miller said he became very angry when Davis started talking about racial equality and President Truman's civil rights program.

The State Solicitor called the grand jury's investigation of the case "very thorough," pointing out that "every witness connected with the case was summoned to testify and Miller's statement was also read and studied by the jury."

Indication that the case against the white mechanic may be reopened was given by the victim's wife, Mrs. Cherry Davis, and his mother, Mrs. Mena B. Henley, who said the NAACP will make a thorough investigation.

Both women said they "did not believe a word of the mess that the papers said" about their husband and son "blowing off" about the President's civil rights report.

Mrs. Davis declared: "I have never heard my husband say a word about the civil rights program. I just can't see how they could let a man kill another man just because he's colored, and then turn it off on racial rights."

She said her husband was "well thought of by most of the white men with whom he has ever worked."

Wiping tears from her eyes, the victim's mother said:

"When I read in the papers that they had freed that 'murderer' it made me sick.

"My son has never said a thing to me about the President's program, and he usually talks to me about everything.

"The big words that the white people say my boy used just don't sound like him. Why, he couldn't spell any of those big words. He only finished the third grade. He was a good boy."

Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Henley said Mr. Davis had been employed at the Army Air Force field, scene of a race riot during the war, since July 26, 1943, and had received a high rating for services rendered there.

13c 1948

Negroes by White (Arkansas)

Man Reported Admitting Three Recent Killings

Journal & Guide

LYNCHBURG, Va.—City and state police are checking the story of 22-year-old Alfred B. Payne of Lynchburg, who is alleged to have confessed to three killings, one of a white farmer and two Negroes.

Held in jail, Payne is reported to have admitted killing Harry Waller, Campbell county farmer, who was found dead in a patch of woods some six and a half miles east of Altavista last Saturday. He had been missing from his home since Dec. 23

Sat. 1-17-48

State Troopers W. F. Hayden and J. W. Matthew said Payne had confessed to killing Charlie Dalton on the night of April 10, 1946, during an argument over a dice game at Hilton Village near Newport News.

They said he also admitted shooting and killing W. G. Walters at New Brunswick, N. J., during an argument in a pool room. Payne said Walters was killed between May and September of last year, officers reported.

Norfolk, Va.

Chief of Police Leroy Woody of Warwick County said he had no record of the murder of Charlie Dalton. However, he said a decomposed body had been found near Lee Hall in August of 1946 and never had been identified.

White Brothers, Slayers, Jailed

The Courier

NEWPORT, Ark.—(ANP)—Jail sentences were handed down to two white brothers in Circuit Judge S. M. Bone's Court here Wednesday after a jury had found them guilty of second-degree murder in the death of John Denton last September. The brothers were Lloyd E., 41, and D. C. McCuistion, 22.

Pittsburgh

Lloyd was sentenced to serve fifteen years in the penitentiary, while his brother received a five-year sentence.

4-10-48

Cuthbert Logger Killed, Brother In Dying State

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Enraged Grocer Said Angered Over Past Due Bill

Sun 4-25-48

By MARION E. JACKSON

CUTHBERT, Ga.—(SNS)— Flaming death blazed from the pistol of an enraged white groceryman who attempted to collect an "over due" grocery bill from two Negro log-haulers, as a result one of the men is dead and the other in a dying condition here in the Patterson Hospital, following the shooting which took place at nearby Morris station.

Sun

The dead man was Lovett Wimberly, 28, father of five children, who died of wounds, resulting from having been shot in the mouth and left arm. 4-25-48

The wounded man is W. J. Wimberly, 33, shot in the stomach. The bullet lodged against his spine, paralyzing him from the waist down. His condition continues critical.

IN UNION CAMPAIGN

An investigation into the bizarre shooting reveals that the Wimberly brothers had been active in the bitter CIO Saw Mill Workers organizing campaign involving Burgin Lumber Company, J and J Lumber Company and Lanier Lumber Company, which has had union and company officials deadlocked for several months. Daily World

Although, the shooting is not definitely linked to the strike-bound lumber mills, the two men were leaders in the strike which started several months ago. As a result, the two brothers began to cut logs and furnish them to mills, employing seven workers. Getting their business on firm footing the brothers made arrangements to purchase groceries from Neal Knighton. There appeared to be some disagreement or whether or not the full debt had been settled. 4-25-48

Knighton, on the evening of the fatal shooting, went to the office of Leonard Sparks, prominent farmer and sawmill operator, for whom the brothers hauled logs, to see W. J. Wimberly about an overdue grocery bill. Witnesses say Wimberly replied: "I'll see you in a minute and turned to begin paying his helpers whereupon Knighton began shooting. His brother reportedly ran for the protection of their automobile and Knighton turned the fire upon him. Atlanta, Ga.

White Man Held for Murder In Ga. Negro Voter's Death

Star
New York, N.Y.

MT. VERNON, Ga., Sept. 12 (AP)—A white man was charged with murder today in the deaht of a Negro the night of Georgia's primary election, Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon said. 9-13-48

J. A. Johnson is being held in the Montgomery County Jail after being arrested early today, the sheriff said. His brother, Johnnie Johnson, 22-year-old logger of Alston, Ga., charged with being an accessory to murder, is free on $500 bond.

The Negro, father of six children, was identified as Isiah Nixon, 28, of Alston, who died in a hospital from three gunshot wounds inflicted the night of the election Wednesday.

The sheriff said Johnnie Johnson told him and his brother went to the Nixon house to get Nixon to work for them and that his brother fired in self-defense. 9-13-48

McCrimmon added that he was told Nixon went to a polling place Wednesday and asked if he could vote. He was told he had the right but was advised not to do so, the sheriff said. Nixon insisted, however, and was allowed to cast his ballot, McCrimmon reported.

The Johnson brothers went to Nixon's home that night and J. A. Johnson fired the fatal shots in front of the Negro's wife and children, the sheriff said. New York, N.Y.

The Democratic primary for Governor in Georgia was won by Herman Talmadge, champion of "white supremacy." 9-13-48

Pilot Bails Out As Plane Snuffs Out Two Lives

Daily World
Wed. 4-28-48

Father And Mother Absent In Fatal Crash Into Home

Atlanta, Ga.

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

Careening dizzily through space, an unpiloted Army plane Tuesday afternoon, with shattering force, splintered the farmhouse of a Negro family off Gilbert road, killing two small children and critically injuring two others.

The dead: Marcus Smith, age three and Cornelius Smith, age one.

The injured: Geraldine Smith, age nine and Evans Smith, Jr. age five.

The pilot of the abandoned plane, Ralph W. Barnwell, of 128 Huntington road, said he bailed out of the death-marked machine when it ran out of gasoline at about 3,500 feet altitude, Fulton county police reported.

The massive iron-bird was said to have sailed over expansive farmland surrounding the dust-covered home of the Smith's and rammed headlong into the rear end of the structure, shearing it off completely.

YOUNGSTERS IN REAR OF HOUSE

Apparently all of the youngstrs were in the rear of the dwelling, for an eyewitness told how their bodies were scattered about the yard after the devastating impact of the plane.

The fuselage of the plane settled about 40 feet from the wrecked house. Its snarled, metal ribs were said to have enveloped the body of the younger child. His head was severed from its body and found about 25 feet away, the eyewitness related.

The body of the other dead child was mangled and scattered about the yard, also, the witness added.

The other two injured children were carried to Grady Hospital, where their conditions were reported critical late Tuesday.

The children's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Smith Sr., were said to have been away from the house at the time of the disaster. Another older child was away from home also, it was said.

According to police reports, the pilot was sad to have landed safely in his parachute about seven miles from the wreckage. He was reported by police as having found his way to the Smith's splintered residence by hitchhiking a ride.

Late Tuesday night curious spectators milled about the stark death trap which stood ghostly in the wilderness.

Several of them spoke how ill-fated it was for the plane to bypass the expansive farmlands surrounding the dwelling and choose the Smith dwelling for its landing target.

The tail of the plane wedged into the side of the house while the giant motor hurtled about 40 yards into a field, its wires and propeller displaying a twisted mass of metal.

The scene of the tragedy is about two and a quarter mile due east of the Municipal Airport in Hapeville and near the Fulton and Clayton county boundary line.

Slayers Of Isaiah Nixon Freed By Jury

Daily World

MT. VERNON, Ga.—Two white men charged with the fatal shooting of Isaiah Nixon, 28-year-old Alston, Ga., voter, following the September 8, state primary, Thursday were acquitted by an all-white jury in Montgomery County Supreme Court. Judge Echol Graham, presided.

Fri 11-5-48

The Montgomery County grand jury Monday had indicted J. A Johnson for murder in the fatal shooting of Nixon and his brother, Johnnie Johnson, for being an accessory to the murder, but Thursday, in a short trial, the two white men were acquitted.

Atlanta, Ga.

The principal defense of the slayer was that he shot Nixon when the latter allegedly advanced on him with a knife as he sought to talk with him about employment.

NAACP ASSISTANCE

The prosecution, led by Solicitor General Boyer, of Hawkinsville, was assisted by NAACP-employed W. R. Dampier, of Dublin.

The state presented a case showing that the white men went to the Nixon home the night of the primary and, after trying to get him to come out to their car, killed him in the presence of his wife and children.

Nixon was alleged to have voted early that morning at the separate polling place for Negroes and to have performed his duties as a turpentine worker during the day, going home late in the afternoon. He had been advised not to vote. Around sundown, he was reportedly standing on his porch when a passenger car drove up quickly and two men leaped from the vehicle, one of them with a shotgun in hand. They were said to have demanded that he come off the porch and get into the car, in the meantime asking him who he voted for that morning.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS

Nixon was shot while trying to answer the rapid-fire questioning of the white men it was said. He died two days later at Claxton Hospital in Dublin.

Montgomery County Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon arrested Johnnie Johnson, a logger, on a charge of accessory to murder, the day after Nixon died and in the next day or so arrested M. A. Johnson and held him on a murder charge. The Johnsons claimed they went to Nixon's house to get him to work.

Nixon was the father of six children. His wife has authorized the NAACP to raise funds for the maintenance of herself and her children.

Other cases, including that of D. V. Carter, president of the Montgomery County NAACP branch, are being handled by the NAACP. Carter was assaulted for carrying Negroes to the polls to vote in the September 8 primary.

Fri 11-5-48

Ga. Man Pays Life for Vote

Afro American

Killing One of Many Election Day Crimes

Sat 9-18-48

TERROR RAMPANT

Cross Burnings, Other Tactics Limit Ballot

Baltimore, Md.

MOUNT VERNON, Ga.—While his wife and six children looked on, Isaiah Nixon of Alston was shot to death by two white men who called at his home on the night of election day, last Wednesday, after he had cast a vote in the Democratic primary, despite advice not to do so.

This slaying of the 28-year-old father of six, climaxed the violence, terror, chicanery and fraud that enabled 35-year-old Herman Talmadge to emerge victorious in the Democratic primary nomination for Governor.

Talmadge, son of the late and unlamented four-time Governor and white supremacy champion, Eugene Talmadge, outran Acting Gov. M. E. Thompson by a popular vote of 350,000 to the latter's 305,000, and won 316 county unit votes to Thompson's 94 in unofficial returns.

Murder Premeditated

Nixon, a turpentine worker, was blasted by three shots from a shotgun and died in a hospital in Dublin shortly afterwards. J. A. Johnson is being held in jail charged with the slaying, while his brother Johnnie, 22, a logger is free on $500 bail as an accessory.

The white man being held said the shooting was "in self defense," according to Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon, who said also that Johnson told him that he and his brother wanted to hire Nixon for mine work.

Post 2-17-48

The sheriff revealed that Nixon went to a polling place in Alston, and asked if he could vote. Told that he had the right to vote, but advised not to do so, Nixon insisted upon casting his ballot, the officer stated.

According to other reports, there were more than two men in the group which went to the Nixon home. They said that the victim had no chance to defend himself, that his murderers shot him immediately after asking him how he voted.

Turned Over to FBI

The Nixon case has been turned over to the FBI, along with that of an Alston farmer who charged that he had been brutally beaten because of his activites on behalf of the Thompson - for - Governor forces.

The farmer, who fled to Atlanta for safety, said that he learned that a group of white men sprang from the woods near Nixon's house and sprayed the dwelling with bullets after the man was slain.

He himself, he stated, had been hired to carry voters to the polling places in his pickup truck. On one occasion, he revealed, he was accosted by a candidate for the sheriff's office who not only warned him but tried to make him crash.

On still another trip, he continued, he was blocked in the road and beaten brutally with a blackjack by one man while another leveled a cocked shotgun at him.

The scenes of the terrorism are near Telfair County, the traditional home celebration place for the Talmadge family victories.

Program of Intimidation

The wool hat boys and the hate forces building up sentiment for a new war, in conspiracy with the political trickery of Roy Harris and the Ku Klux Klan, succeeded through murder, intimidation and fraud in electing Herman Talmadge to the post he tried to take by force after 'Ol Gene died in 1946.

Campaigning mainly on an anti-civil rights plank, Young Talmadge held the rights issue the "biggest issue since the War Between the States," and outdid his father in demagoguery during his campaign. He is slated to be inaugurated immediately following the ratifying Nov. 2 general election.

3-Way Repression Program

Talmadge's backers resorted to a three-way program to keep thousands of colored voters away from the polls and thus insure their candidate of election. The program consisted of terrorism, chicanery and fraud.

The terrorism consisted of a series of Klan crossburnings in various areas of the State; the chicanery was met in the delaying tactics of officials, who, in many instances, slowed voters to about three per hour by asking foolish questions; and the fraud was employed in "losing" names of hundreds of colored, voters from the lists.

Crosses Burned in State

The Klan burned crosses in at least three Georgia areas—Valdosta, the home of Thompson; Houston County, near a store and church owned by colored persons and in the northern part of Bullech County, where a casket was also placed on the porch of a citizen's home near a church where the cross was burned.

It is believed that the crossburning in Valdosta, which was also accompanied by a campaign of intimidating colored citizens through threatening notes, had considerable effect; since few minority group citizens cast votes there.

Delaying Tactics Used

According to a reporter of the Augusta Herald, delaying tactics were carried out in that city to prevent citizens from voting in large numbers. Election officials allowed them to vote only at the rate of about three per hour by holding them up asking foolish questions, it was stated.

A minor official was heard to say:

"I believe we can kill at least 20 minutes per n---r. That will slow 'em down to only three each hour. There are going to be plenty of them standing in line when the polls close at 6 p.m."

Names Off Voting Lists

In Spaulding County, some 558 colored registrants found their names missing from the list on election day. The registrars, who had promised Federal Judge Scarlett at Savannah that they would stop the "purge" of voters, turned over the voters' list the day before the Sept. 8 primary; but the colored voters' names were missing.

The case is still open, according to the judge's directions, but it remains to be seen what further action will be taken.

Professional for Talmadge

Not all colored persons in Georgia were opposed to the victorious Talmadge, whose forces did everything possible to restrict the minority group vote and who had promised to battle the civil rights program to the bitter end.

Among his colored allies was Dr. J. W. Holley, ex-president of Albany State College, who also had been one of the supporters of the late Eugene Talmadge, known primarily to the world for his race-baiting.

Dr. Holley ran an advertisement in the Albany Herald asking colored citizens to vote for Herman Talmadge on the basis of pledges to expand the jim crow educational facilities of the State made by Talmadge's father.

Cuthbert Logger Killed, Brother In Dying State

The Lighthouse

Enraged Grocer Said Angered Over Past Due Bill

Sun 5-2-48

Columbia S.C.

By MARION E. JACKSON

CUTHBERT, Ga.—(SNS)— Flaming death blazed from the pistol of an enraged white groceryman who attempted to collect an "over due" grocery bill from two Negro log-haulers, as a result one of the men is dead and the other in a dying condition here in the Patterson Hospital, following the shooting which took place at nearby Morris station.

The dead man was Lovett Wimberly, 28, father of five children, who died of wounds, resulting from having been shot in the mouth and left arm.

The wounded man is W. J. Wimberly, 33, shot in the stomach. The bullet lodged against his spine, paralyzing him from the waist down. His condition continues critical.

Sun 5-2-48

IN UNION CAMPAIGN

An investigation into the bizarre shooting reveals that the Wimberly brothers had been active in the bitter CIO Saw Mill Workers organizing campaign involving Burgin Lumber Company, J and J Lumber Company and Lanier Lumber Company, which has had union and company officials deadlocked for several months.

Although, the shooting is not definitely linked to the strike-bound lumber mills, the two men were leaders in the strike which started several months ago. As a result, the two brothers began to cut logs and furnish them to mills, employing seven workers. Getting their business on firm footing the brothers made arrangements to purchase groceries from Neal Knighton. There appeared to be some disagreement or whether or not the full debt had been settled.

Knighton, on the evening of the fatal shooting, went to the office of Leonard Sparks, prominent farmer and sawmill operator, for whom the brothers hauled logs, to see W. J. Wimberly about an overdue grocery bill. Witnesses say Wimberly replied: "I'll see you in a minute and turned to begin paying his helpers whereupon Knighton began shooting. His brother reportedly ran for the protection of their automobile and Knighton turned the fire upon him.

REPORT FROM GBI

GBI Agent James P. Gormely, of Cuthbert, said Knighton gave this version of the shooting:

When Knighton arrived at Sparks' office, Sparks was paying off the two Negroes Knighton waited outside.

When W. J. and Lovett came out Knighton allegedly said to W. J. Wimberly: "I want to see you."

The white man contends that Lovett Wimberly pulled an automatic and that he shot him in the mouth. He said further Lovett Wimberly dropped his gun and ran and he shot him in the left arm.

Agent Gormley, assisting Randolph County Sheriff W. E. Taylor in the investigation, said Knighton surrendered to Sheriff Taylor and the two men went to the scene of the shooting, then to the office of Quitman County Sheriff Henry Herrington.

NO CHARGES PREFERRED

No charges have been preferred against Knighton. Quitman County Sheriff Henry Herrington has not even called for an official probe of the shooting.

The brothers come from a large family of farmers near Cuthbert. Their parents are Will and Annie Mae Wimberly. A brother is Booker T. Wimberly. Sisters are Evergreen Wimberly and Mattie Mae Starling.

The slain man is the father of five children: Ollie Mae, Johnette, Jamie, Edith and Don Wendell, the latter one week old.

Lovett Wimberly was buried on Thursday, April 23, with Alex Perkins of Lee's Funeral Home, Cuthbert in charge of the remains.

for action in connection with the slaying.

Meanwhile, W. J. Wimberly hovers between life and death in the Patterson Hospital here in Cuthbert.

Free All Suspects Involved In Ambush Slaying

Atlanta Daily World

[illegible]

13c

JACKSON, Ga.—(SNS)—Sheriff J. D. Pope, of Butts county, disclosed Monday that all persons involved in the June 12 fatal shooting of a 60-year-old Negro tenant farmer and the subsequent shooting of one of the suspected white slayers by his son had been acquitted of charges placed against them.

The slain farmer, Jesse Jefferson was allegedly shot to death from ambush by a group of white men which stalked him at his neighbor's house. Jefferson and the men had reportedly engaged in a dispute just prior to the shooting when they claimed he failed to pull his wagon to the side of the road to permit the passing of thier car.

One of the white ambushers was critically wounded by one of the slain farmer's son when he ventured close to the house after the fatal shooting of Jefferson.

Two white suspects, Jerry Thomas and A. G. Wilder, the latter who was wounded, were both bound over for voluntary manslaughter while two of the Jefferson boys Morris and H. W., were bound over on assault with intent to murder charges.

[illegible]

Both of the Jefferson boys and the white suspects have been freed Sheriff Pope related.

Voter's Slayer Acquitted in Ga.

13c

MOUNT VERNON, Ga.—After two and a half hours deliberation last Friday night an all-white Superior Court jury acquitted M. A. Johnson, white, accused of murdering Isaiah Nixon, the only colored person to vote in Montgomery County in the recent State Democratic primary.

Afro American

[illegible]

Baltimore Md.

Johnson, who pleaded self-defense, testified that he and his brother, John, went to Nixon's home to get him to do some work and that the slain man advanced as "if" he had a gun in his pocket.

[illegible]

Wife, Children Witnesses

The defendant said he fired once into the floor to stop Nixon but he continued to advance upon him. Johnson shot Nixon three times as his wife and six children looked on.

The defendant's brother, accused as an accessory to the murder, was not tried and was released following his acquittal.

When the shooting accurred, Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon said that Nixon went to the polls to vote and was advised against it, but that he insisted on his rights as a citizen.

Lad, 17, Shot By Taxi Driver Enroute Home

13c

Daily World

THOMSON, Ga.—(SNS)—Emmett Dunn Jr., 17-year-old student of the Negro high school was fatally wounded Wednesday at 8:45 a. m. John D. Perry, 37-year-old white Thomson taxi driver is being held in the county jail here in connection with the death of the youngster. He is being charged with murder.

Sat 2-7-48

Young Dunn and his brother, John Marion Dunn, 15, were passing the Perry home en route to school and had reached a distance of approximately 30 yards beyond the house when Emmett grabbed his stomach and said, "Call papa, I'm hurt." The officer said that Perry was sitting on the rear stoop of his home apparently shooting at random' when the youth was struck.

Atlanta Ga.

Chief Cross stated that the young Negro was found shot just above the hip, with the bullet apparently hitting the spinal column. He died before medical aid could be reached.

Young Dunn was a member of a respectable family, a member of the High school band and was president of his class.

SUSPECT FREED IN FATAL

Afro American

SHOOTING OF GA. FARMER

Baltimore, Md.

Sat. 12-4-48

Jackson, Ga.-Sheriff J. D. Pope, of Butts County disclosed Monday that all persons involved in the June 12, fatal shooting of a 60-year-old colored tenant farmer and the subsequent shooting of one of the suspected hite slayers by his son had been acquitted of charges placed against them. Sat. 12-4-48

The slain farmer, Jesse Jefferson, was allegedly shot to death from ambush by a group of white men.

FARMER KILLED IN

AMBUSH GUN VOLLEY

Atlanta Daily World

Jackson, Ga.--(SNS)-Unknown whites waited in ambush for Jesse Jefferson and his son following an argument on Highway 16 and snuffed out the life of the farmer while exchanging a withering volly of bullets with his son.

Atlanta, Ga.

The incident occured Saturday, June 12, on highway 16, just out from Jackson. Reports coming out of this community indicate that Jefferson and his son were driving home from Jackson. A white motorist drew up behind Jefferson and attempted to pass in the narrow roadway. It is reported Jefferson wouldn't pull over. The driver of the vehicle cursed Jefferson and the farmer is alleged to have cursed him back.

Wed 6-16-48

The white motorists drove on after warning the Jeffersons not to be at the same spot when he returned. The Jeffersons drove on down the Highway only to find several white men waiting in ambush along the road.

Gun-fire burst from the road and the Jeffersons are said to have answered with a hail of bullets. Jesse Jefferson was felled in the exchnge.

His son is being held in Butts County Jail. One of the whites participating in the shooting is also being held.

Governor Of Georgia Asked To Start Quiz

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Ill.

Will Demand FBI Action If State Fails NAACP Says

Sat 9-18-48

NEW YORK CITY — (Special to The Defender) — Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, has forwarded a request to the governor of Georgia that a thorough investigation be made into the brutal election slaying of Isaac Nixon. Marshall declared that if no immediate action is taken by the governor, a demand will be made that the Department of Justice send in FBI agents to investigate, with a view to federal prosecution of the killers. Nixon was murdered after he insisted upon voting in the state election for governor, which was won by "race hating" Herman Talmadge.

ATLANTA, Ga.—The cold-blooded murder of one man who demanded his right to vote in the Georgia gubernatorial election, and the intimidation of thousands of other Negro voters in the rural and small town sections of the state accompanied the land-slide election of Herman Talmadge last week as the next governor of Georgia.

Sat 9-18-48

The murder victim was Isaac Nixon, 28 year old farmer and ex-G. I. who demanded a ballot as a qualified voter in Alston, Ga on Wednesday. [illegible] told by the poll officials that he had a right to a ballot, but was "advised" not to vote.

He insisted and was given a ballot over the protest of two white poll watchers, Johnnie Johnson and M. A. Johnson, back-country loggers and rabid Talmadge supporters.

Murdered At Home

On Wednesday night two Johnson brothers went to Nixon's home, and shot him down on his porch in front of his wife and six small children. Nixon died later at the Dublin hospital.

The two white men were taken into custody by Sheriff R. M. McCrimmons on a charge of murder. Both claimed they shot in self defense, stating that they went to Nixon's home to hire him to work for them, and that a quarrel developed. Mrs. Nixon denied this, stating that the two men began firing without warning.

Ku Klux Victory

The Talmadge victor was insured by the support of the Ku Klux Klan, which burned fiery crosses, and distributed warning leaflets from airplanes to Negroes to stay away from the polls in the days before the election. Talmadge campaigned on a platform of "white supremacy" and race hate, capitalizing upon the popularity of his late father "Ole Gene" Talmadge, three-time Georgia governor, with the backwoods "Cracker" element of the state.

NAACP Presses Prosecution of Pair Who Killed Voter

Nashville Globe

Fri 11-5-48

New York,—Seeking to establish the right to vote without fear of fatal reprisals, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that it would assist in the prosecution of the murderers of Isaiah Nixon, 28 year-old Negro of Alston, Ga., who was slain by two white brothers on September 8 because he had voted in the Democratic primary election.

The case is scheduled for presentation to the Montgomery County Grand Jury during the first week of November. Retained by Nixon's young widow, the Georgia State Conference of NAACP branches has employed W. A. Dampier of Dublin, Ga., to assist the State in the prosecution of M. A. Johnson, charged with firing the fatal shot, and his brother, Johnnie Johnson, charged with being an accessory to the murder. Mrs. Nixon also authorized the NAACP to raise funds for the prosecution and for the maintenance of herself and her children. Fri 11-5-48

The NAACP has also been retained to handle the case of D. V. Carter, president of the Montgomery County, Ga., NAACP branch, whose left wrist was broken when he was assaulted and beaten for carrying Negroes to the polls in his automobile on the day of the same election. In a letter to Mr. A. Abbot Rosen, Chief of the Civil Rights Section of the FBI, NAACP Assistant Special Counsel Franklin H. Williams wrote, "We request an immediate investigation by your office of this incident, and if as a result thereof you find a Federal violation has been committed, prosecution of the parties guilty of this assault.

The case has also been called to the attention of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

"It is not enough to win the right to vote," Walter White, N. A. A. C. P. Secretary, said in commenting on these cases. "We must be able to protect Negro voters in the exercise of this basic right. Southern Negroes have time and time again demonstrated that they are not to be intimidated by threats and violence. It is the responsibility of all of us to see that they are permitted to vote without reprisals. All our resources must be mobilized to this end. Otherwise, the long struggle to establish the right to vote will come to naught."

Sheriff Says Negro Killed After He Voted

MOUNT VERNON, Sept. 11—(AP)—Montgomery County Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon said today a Negro father of six children died Friday in a Dublin hospital after being shot because he insisted on his right to vote in the Georgia Democratic Primary Wednesday. The Negro was Isiah Nixon, 28, of Alston, according to the Sheriff.

Sun 9-12-48

Sheriff McCrimmon said he is holding Johnnie Johnson, 22, of Alston, a logger, on a charge of accessory to murder and is seeking to arrest his brother, M. A. Johnson, on a charge of murder.

The Sheriff said he was told that Nixon went to the polling place in Alston Wednesday and wanted to know if he could vote.

Nixon was told, the Sheriff said, that he had the right to vote but was advised not to do so.

The Negro insisted on voting anyway, the Sheriff said, and that night the two Johnson brothers went to Nixon's home where he lived with his wife and six children.

It was then, the Sheriff said, that M. A. Johnson fired three shots into Nixon. The wounded man was taken to Claxton Hospital in Dublin where he died.

Sun 9-12-48

The Sheriff said that Johnnie Johnson said that he and his brother had gone to the home of the Negro to get Nixon to work for them and that his brother fired in self defense.

The investigation will be continued, the Sheriff said.

NAACP Pushes Georgia Voter Killing Case

Memphis World

White Says Unit Must Be Able To Protect Voters

Tues 11-2-48

Memphis Tenn

NEW YORK — Seeking to establish the right to vote without fear of fatal reprisals, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced Saturday that it would assist in the prosecution of the murders of Isaiah Nixon, 28-year-old Negro of Alston, Ga., who was slain by two white brothers on September 8 because he had voted in the Democratic primary election.

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HANDLE CARTER CASE

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Confessed Ga. Killers Acquitted

The Courier

Sat 11-13-48

Special to The Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MOUNT VERNON, Ga. — Justice—the blind goddess—threatened to throw away her sword and scales last week as an all-white Georgia jury, true to Dixie traditions, refused to convict two white brothers who actually admitted shooting Isiah Nixon to death, making his wife a widow and leaving his six small children fatherless, all because Nixon had voted on Sept. 8.

Nixon, a 28-year-old turpentine worker, had been dared to vote in the primary election held on that day, but went to the polls and cast his ballot despite the warning. He was shot to death just before sundown of the same day.

CHARGES IGNORED

J. A. and Johnnie Johnson, two white brothers, were indicted Nov. 1 by the Montgomery County grand jury on murder and accessory charges, but, after a short trial, the two white men were acquitted.

It had been expected that more time would elapse between the grand jury action and the trial, but the Montgomery processes of law worked on the extra fast schedule of small county courts.

The Johnsons claimed Nixon was shot when he advanced on J. A. after they had gone to the Negro's home to talk to him about working. The Johnsons were loggers and Nixon a turpentine worker.

NAACP IN CASE

Solicitor General Boyer of Hawkinsville was assisted by NAACP-employed Atty. W. A. Dempier of Dublin. The State's case, heard by Judge Eschol Graham, countered the claims of the white brothers.

According to witnesses and best reports, Nixon voted early the morning of the Sept. 8 primary despite advice from those at the polls not to do so. He went on to work, performed his duties as a turpentine worker and went home late in the afternoon. Around sundown, Nixon was reportedly standing on his porch when a passenger car drove up quickly and two men leaped from the vehicle, one of them with a shotgun in hand.

ASKED ABOUT VOTING

The men, identified as the Johnson brothers, told Nixon to come off the porch and get into their car, in the meantime asking him whom he voted for that morning, according to Mrs. Nixon.

While trying to answer the rapid-fire questioning of the white men, Nixon was shot, dying two days later at Claxton Hospital in Dublin.

Arrested shortly after the slaying, the Johnsons claimed they went to Nixon's house to get him to work for them, had an argument with him and shot him because they "thought" he was carrying a weapon.

Sat 11-13-48

NIXONS NEED AID

Nixon was father of six children, for whom the NAACP has been authorized to solicit funds. Mrs. Nixon has indicated that the family needs aid as the dead man was the sole support.

Montgomery County, which is near Telfair, the traditional home of the Talmadges and a Ku Klux Klan stronghold, was the scene of other violence toward Negroes participating in the primary. D. V. Carter, president of the Montgomery County NAACP branch, was severely beaten for carrying Negroes to the polls to vote. He fled to Atlanta for aid following the assault.

Slayer Gets Off Light: He's White

Sat 3-21-48

THOMSON, Ga. — John D. Perry, white, Thomson taxi driver, was sentenced to three years in Tattnall prison after a McDuffie County Superior court jury found his guilty of involuntary manslaughter in connection with the death of Emmett Dunn, Jr., 17-year-old Negro high school student on February 4.

The Youth was shot and fatally wounded while passing the Perry home enroute to school.

White Man Charged With Slaying Negro

Columbia Record

MT. VERNON, Ga., Sept. 13—(AP)—A white man is in the Montgomery County jail charged with murdering a Negro father of six children the night after the Negro was said to have gone to the polls and insisted upon voting.

Mon 9-13-48

Sheriff R. M. McCrimmon announced yesterday he had jailed J. A. Johnson on a murder charge after the Negro, 28-year-old Isaiah Nixon of Alston, died in a hospital of three gunshot wounds.

Columbia, S.C.

Johnson's brother, Johnnie, a 22-year-old logger, is under $500 bond charged with being an accessory.

The sheriff said Nixon was shot down in front of his wife and children. He quoted Johnnie Johnson as saying he and his brother went to the Negro's house to get Nixon to work for them and that J. A. Johnson fired in self defense.

McCrimmon, however, said he was told that Nixon went to a polling place Wednesday and asked if he could vote in the Democratic primary. He was told that he could, the sheriff said, but advised against it. Nixon insisted upon voting, McCrimmon reported.

Wed 9-15-48

Herman Talmadge, a "white supremacy' 'advocate, was nominated for governor in the primary.

Cuthbert Logger Killed, Brother In Dying State

The Fla. Tattler

Enraged Grocer Said Angered Over Past Due Bill

Jacksonville Fla.

By Marion E. Jackson

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Sat. 5-15-48

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In Union Campaign

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The white man contends that Lovett Wimberly pulled an automatic and that he shot him in the mouth. He said further Lovett Wimberly dropped his gun and ran and he shot him in the left arm.

Agent Gormley, assisting Randolph County Sheriff W. E. Taylor in the investigation, said Knightor surrendered to Sheriff Taylor and the two men went to the scene of the shooting, then to the office of Quitman County Sheriff Henry Herrington.

Sat. 5-15-48

No Charges Preferred

No charges have been preferred against Knighton. Quitman County Sheriff Henry Herrington has not even called for an official probe of the shooting.

The brothers come from a large family of farmers near Cuthbert. Their parents are Will and Annie Mae Wimberly. A
brother is Booker T. Wimberly. Johnette, Jamie, Edith and Don
Sisters are Evergreen Wimberly Wendell, the latter one week
and Mattie Mae Starling. old.
The slain man is the father
of five children: Ollie Mae,

White Farmer Slays Woman On Doorsteps

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Sat 8-7-48

RAYLE, Ga.—(SNS)— A shocking and brutal killing unfolded here in Wilkes County, when Mrs. Lottie M. Smith, 23-year-old mother, was slain at point-blank pistol range by Carl Sherrer, 55-year old farmer after an argument over a piece of wood.

The young mother was killed in the doorway of her four-room home, while her 6-year-old daughter watched horrified from the inside of the house.

The shooting took place at 10 A. M., Monday, August 2, after Sherrer had come to the home of the Smiths to warn the young mother about taking wood from his fence. The slain woman denied the theft and an argument ensued.

TOLD TO SHUT UP

Sherrer is alleged to have told Mrs. Smitth to "shut up" and the woman reportedly replied "I don't have to shut up". The farmer is said to have become incensed and threatened to "make you keep your mouth shut for good."

Sherrer returned to his home according to reports, and secured a 22-calibre pistol, and returned to the Smith's home and called to the young mother. When she appeared in the doorway of her home, Sherrer, opened fire, hitting the woman who sprawled in the yard with a bullet wound in the hand. As she fell her hand clutched an axe handle. Sherrer is said to have fired again striking her in the side. While the woman wretched in agony, Sherrer, according to witnesses fired again, wounding her fatally in the heart.

Sat 8-7-48

SHERIFF SUMMONED

Sheriff Horace Lunceford of Wilkes County summoned to the scene impaneled a corner's jury, who reported its finding to the Wilkes County Grand Jury)which was in session at the time) and the grand jury reporting the same day returned a no-bill, which described the killing as justifiable homicide.

The slaying was witnessed by Virgina Haney, 22-year old, who watched the brutal slaying, from the inside of the bare and sombe home of the Smith's family. Mrs. Smith's grief-stricken daughter, screamed in terror and horror as the slaying occurred.

The body of the slain woman was taken to the A. T. McLendon Funeral Home at Washington, Ga Funeral rites are to be held Sunday, August 8, at Rayle, Ga.

FIRST RACE SLAYING

Residents of Wilkes County described the slaying as the first outbreak of its kind in many years. The slaying has definitely stirred race relations in the section.

Charlie Smith, husband of the slain woman, said Sherrer had spoken to him him about his wife taking the wood, but he had denied the charge. The farmer then went to Smith's home while he was away and started the argument.

After Sherrer had slain the woman witnesses say, he rushed pellmell to his home about a half-block away and attemptted to hide under the house.

Members of the Washington Civic League, through Rev. J. E. Gibbs, Rev. S. Sims, and A. T. McLendon, have asked an investigation, but no furthur action seem likely to be pushed by Wilkes County officials.

High School Boy, 17, Made Human Target

Afro American

Sat 2-21-48

Baltimore, Md

White Operator of Taxi Company to Be Tried for Murder in March

BROTHER DESCRIBES TRAGEDY

Parents' Refusal to Leave Home Offered as Motive by Neighbors

By DOUGLASS HALL

(Special Correspondent)

THOMSON, Ga. — " . . . When I saw that my son was going to die, I picked him up and held him in my arms . . . . and that is where he died," Emmett Dunn, local farmer, told the AFRO this week

Mr. Dunn's son, Emmett Jr. was killed last Monday as he was en route to school, by John D. Perry, white, who operates a taxicab company. He allegedly used the youth as a human target to try out his 45 calibre pistol.

John Marion, 15, was accompanying his brother to school when the killing occurred. The family lives in an all-white neighborhood.

Sat 2-21-48

Second Shot Fells Brother

John stated: "We were late for classes and we were kind of running. As we neared Mr. Perry's house, we heard a shot. We did not pay it any attention.

"Then there was a second shot and my brother fell. I summoned help and someone ran for my dad. We were only about 10 minutes away from home.

"My father arrived shortly. About that time, Junior was about dead. The bullet went all the way through his body."

Trial Slated for March

At a preliminary hearing, held this week, the white man was indicted on a charge of murder and scheduled for trial around the first of March, next term of Superior Court.

At the hearing, Perry stated that he was "sorry that I shot the boy I was not shooting at him. I was shooting at a target I had set up in my yard."

He is still in the County jail, his request for bond denied.

At the hearing Mayor E. E. Lokey seemed rather upset about the whole affair. He stated that he picked up the dying boy and tried to get him medical aid, "But he died before we reached it," he stated.

Sat 2-21-48

Whites in Minority

Intent upon a complete reaction of the people in this small town (population: 4,000; 51% colored), I spent all the day and far up into the night, looking around, listening to discussions and making inquiries.

The Dunns' home was very difficult to locate, because it is not placed according to the local pattern of segregation. As I did not have their address, and I did not think it wise to inquire for them by name, I was satisfied with a general direction.

Knows Better, Than to Say "Yes"

I entered several white persons' homes before I finally reached the Dunn's home. Practically all of them asked me right off, "Are you looking for the family of the boy who got shot?" I answered "No . . . . . sir."

One white woman followed me into the street trying to "help" me find who I wanted to see. I told her if she would just show me where some colored persons lived in this section I was sure that they could direct me.

"Oh," she stated, "turn around the corner, and three houses down you will find 'Mattie' . . . She is as white as I am, but she is colored . . . . . Don't forget! She is as white as I am, but she is colored."

The woman in question was not at home, but I did meet her later. She turned out to be the grandmother of this young chap who was killed.

Will Not Leave Their Home

The Dunns live comfortably. They are heartbroken, of course, but they are sticking in this town despite offers to move out.

"We own all this land around here," Mr. Dunn who is a truck farmer stated, "I don't intend to leave here. Not now, anyway. I was born here.

"I am still going to live in this house. I am putting electric lights and a telephone in it now. I am still sending the four kids who are left through the white community to school."

There are four children left. They are: John, 15; Carolyn, 12; Ephrim, 10, and Robert, 8.

"Can't Understand It"

Mr. Dunn does not want to talk about the whole matter. "I just can't understand it," he stated.

"I have been knowing Mr. Perry for years. I used to work for him. A short while before the killing, he picked me up and gave me a ride into town."

The reason for the shooting seemed to be absolutely motiveless, unless one would listen to rumormongers down in the colored section of town.

Location of Home Resented

They say that the white people resent the Dunns' living in that section of the city.

They state that they have heard, while working around barbershops, kitchens, and many other places such remarks as, "Why is it Dunn won't sell out and go out among his people?"

Reactions of local citizens can be summoned up in a few words: "White folks are sympathetic; colored persons are silent."

Mother Stricken After Killing

Mrs. Emmett Dunn, mother of the slain boy, has been confined to bed with a heart attack since the killing.

"In less then 15 minutes after they had left for school, I received the message that my son was dead," she said.

"He had so much promise—and was so hopeful of attending college next year. He was a senior this year."

Again the entire world will turn its eyes toward Georgia to see whether an all-white jury will convict a white man for killing a colored man.

An Outstanding Pupil

Emmett Dunn Jr., was outstanding in activities at the McDuffie County Training School, where he was a senior. White and colored

On Civil Liberties--

An incident has occurred in Montgomery County which puts Georgia and the South in a position sure to focus national and even international attention on us.

A Negro farmer, father of six, was killed following the recent primary.

The Associated Press quoted the Sheriff of the county as saying the man was killed because he insisted on voting. Those held for his death say they killed him in "self-defense," though they went to his home and called him out.

The Russians will use this in their papers to prove that in the United States minorities are not safe from murder, Henry Wallace and all the supporters of civil rights will use this to justify their claim the South will not enforce the law and protect human rights.

We suggest that every civic club in the county seat, Mount Vernon, be encouraged to act. We hope the Acting Governor, the Governor-nominate and his friends will wire the Grand Jury, Sheriff and Judges to aid in seeing justice is done. We must make of this case an example of how we meet our responsibilities.

If we fail in this one we will have destroyed public opinion that supports much of the opposition to the political-year legislation for civil rights.

13c 1948

Negroes By Whites (Kentucky)

White Man Jailed In Negro's Slaying On Christmas Eve

Courier Journal

Louisville Ky.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 27 (AP)—Raymond D. Tatman, 60, a white man, was jailed today charged with murder of Tom Miller, 44, a Negro who was shot fatally Christmas Eve.

County Attorney William A. Young said he was told that Tatman was drinking and one of his sons called in Miller, who lived near by, to help quiet Tatman. Miller was shot as he stepped toward the front door.

Times 12-28-48

Chief of Police Guy Wainscott swore out a murder warrant after Miller died today, and Tatman was sent to jail by County Judge Boone Hamilton in default of $5,000 bond to await grand jury action.

Times 12-28-48

Charge Posse Murdered Negro

Daily Worker 13c

Thur 10-28-48

By William Allan

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Oct. 27.—Startling new evidence has come to light here that Roosevelt Perkins, 33-year-old Negro auto worker was actually murdered in cold blood by a member of an 80-man posse. A coroner's jury had characterized Perkins' death, Oct. 10, in a cornfield near Saline, Mich., as justifiable homicide.

The new evidence is now in the hands of the Michigan Civil Rights Congress, Progressive Party of Washentaw County and the local branch of the NAACP. It reveals that Perkins was not shot in the back, as Kenneth McAllister, the member of the posse who fired the shot, testified, but was actually shot through the abdomen. This would tend to show that Perkins was not fleeing, as McAllister alleged.

The information is contained in a sworn affidavit of Joseph Thompson, who embalmed Perkins' body. Thompson's affidavit declares:

THOMPSON'S AFFIDAVIT

"I, Joseph Thompson, am employed by the Diggs Funeral Home at 693 Mack Ave., Detroit, Mich., as an embalmer. I am in charge of the embalming department of the place of my employment. On Oct. 11, 1949, I embalmed the body of one Roosevelt Perkins, which was brought to the Diggs Funeral Home from the University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, Mich.

"I examined this body carefully, as I usually do, and observed only one bullet hole in the right side of the abdomen about two inches below the diaphram. This hole did not penetrate through the back. It is my opinion that the deceased was shot in the abdomen and not in the back. The only mark on the back opposite the bullet hole and the abdomen was a gash which appeared to be made by a surgical instrument in attempting to remove the bullet."

Jack Raskin, executive secretary of the Michigan Civil Rights Congress, announced that his organization is demanding Washentaw Prosecuting Attorney Reading immediately reopen the Perkins case.

"This case has every earmark of a brutal, unwarranted murder," said Raskin, "and the whitewashing of the murderer by the Coroner's Jury demands that the people of Michigan be made aware of the miscarriage of justice in this instance.

DEMAND ACTION

"Prompt action must be taken to see that a conviction in this state is obtained. If it cannot, then the CRC will take this case before U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark."

Raskin said that a delegation of Michigan citizens will seek an immediate audience with Republican Gov. Kim Sigler. Attorney General Tom Clark will be asked to investigate the Perkins case for violation of Federal Civil Rights statutes.

Perkins was reported to have fled Oct. 9, when called upon by a Saline police officer to stop.

An 80-man posse scoured the countryside, armed with deer rifles and shotguns. A half hour before Perkins was killed, the posse members were told by Ray Carlson, Saline chief of police, that the car Perkins had been driving was listed as a stolen car. Carlson told Kenneth McAllister, the 19-year-old youth who killed Perkins, "don't be afraid to shoot if he doesn't stop."

McAllister, under oath, at the coroner's inquest stated that when he met Perkins, Perkins approached him with his hands "sorta half up in the air." McAllister testified that he called on Perkins to halt at a distance of 15 feet. Perkins, according to McAllister, turned and ran. Perkins had been handcuffed by a local policeman several hours earlier when arrested in Saline.

McAllister said he put a shell in the Winchester automatic and kept calling on Perkins to halt. When he didn't, McAllister shot him. The bullet entered Perkins' back, said McAllister, "though I shot at his thighs."

Negro Killed, Sheriff Covers White Slayer

Daily Worker

SANDY HOOK, Miss., May 6.—Deputy Sheriff T. W. White reported today that a white man, whose name he "doesn't remember," shot and killed Hosea Carter, a Negro, last Sunday.

White's belated revelation said that Carter's body was found early Sunday, with a shotgun wound in his chest and several smaller wounds.

New York, N.Y.

The slain Negro was accused by the sheriff of having tried to "break into" the home of the German war bride of a veteran identified only as "Renfro."

Fri.

White claimed that Carter, his brother Willie and a third Negro, William Harris, had tried to enter the Renfro home while Renfro was away.

5-7-48

The sheriff denied a lynch mob had slain Carter. His story was that Renfro and a "neighbor" entered the Carter home, that Carter reached for a shotgun and that in the ensuing scuffle, the gun "went off."

White claimed the wounded Negro nevertheless was able to leap out of the door and run fast enough to elude his white pursuers.

Carter's brother and Harris are in jail here for "safekeeping." In an obvious incitement to lynch action, the sheriff said Carter's murderer did what "any decent white man would have done," and alleged that "feeling is running high" against the other two. There have been no arrests for Carter's slaying.

White said a searching party had failed to find Hosea Carter in an all-night hunt. His body was allegedly found early Sunday.

5-7-48

NEGRO'S DEATH CHECKED

White Store Owner Accused In West Point Shooting

WEST POINT, Miss., Nov. 23.—Law enforcement authorities Tuesday were investigating the fatal shooting of William Allen, 18, negro, in an ice cream parlor here Monday evening.

William McLean, white owner of the store, is accused by authorities of shooting Allen while forcing him out of his store. He said the negro had used "derogatory language."

McLean has contended the shooting was accidental. He told police it occurred when the negro grabbed his arm that held the gun. He said he thought the safety catch was on, police said.

Carolinians Urge Action in 'Main Street' Murder

Baltimore, Md.

Citizens Charge Police Shield Two White Youths, Suspects; Lawyer Denies Probe Made

Sat 1-10-48

RALEIGH, N. C.—Questioned last week on why no action had been taken in the gangland-style slaying of Charlie (Bud) Smith, and the critical wounding of Daniel L. Brassford six weeks ago by two youthful white suspects, Harnett County officials said warrants "probably" will be drawn soon.

Solicitor Jack Hooks of Kenly who conferred with Sheriff W. E. (Bill) Salmon declared:

"They (law enforcement officers) have a case which is about ready for the grand jury. They want to get everything lined up before they act."

Negligence Denied

Somewhat sensitive concerning the criticism leveled at legal officials for the long delay in bringing the suspects to justice, the solicitor added:

"They haven't failed to do anything that they should. So far as I can say, there has been no negligence." He pointed out that there has not been a term of Harnett County Superior Court since the shooting last month.

Sheriff Salmon said his officers have been investigating the slaying continuously in an effort to procure sufficient evidence to make an arrest.

Afro-American

Slain in Street

The victims were mowed down by shots fired from a moving automobile the morning of Nov. 28 on one of the principal streets of the town of Angier.

A jury empaneled by Coroner C. B. Allred ruled at the inquest that Smith was killed by gunshot wounds from a small gauge weapon at the hands of "persons unknown."

Suspect "Troublemaker"

But Police Chief Alton Cobb reported that one of the suspects had been involved in trouble with colored residents of Angier prior to the November slaying.

Afro American

Duncan C. Wilson, attorney of Dunn, employed by Smith's wife to assist in prosecution of the case, said that, to his knowledge, no investigation has been made at all since the day after the slaying.

Other reliable reports from Angier said neither of the two suspects has been subjected to police questioning concerning the incident.

Two whites identified in Smith killing, arrested

LILLINGTON, N. C.—Two white men have been arrested for the slaying of Charles Smith, 50-year-old Negro, whose death was earlier thought to have been a lynching.

One of the whites is the brother of a policeman. The two, who killed Smith in gangland fashion from a moving automobile, are: Marvin Matthews, 25, and Wyatt Adams, 22.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Smith was shot on the streets of Angier early Sunday morning, Nov. 23. With him, and critically wounded, was Daniel Lee Brassford. Brassford is believed to have furnished the information which led to the arrest of the young white men. It could not be obtained earlier because the wounded man lay for weeks in a coma, induced by his wounds and fear.

Sat 1-17-48

The shooting took place in reprisal for "back talk" Smith is said to have given a white man, believed to have been one of the two alleged slayers. The night before there had been an argument in a gas station during which Smith's determination to stand up for his rights angered the whites.

When no serious attempt was made by Angier police to apprehend the killers, Gov. Gregg Cherry was asked to step in. He declined, however, on grounds that the case was not a lynching, merely a local murder.

1-17-48

Believed instrumental in finding the two men was a private attorney, hired by Smith's widow. Both men have been jailed, pending a grand jury investigation.

Kills Carolina Funeral Director Over 85 Cents

Pittsburgh, Pa. Sat. 4-10-48

WILSON, N. C.—Otis Newsome, 24-year-old World War II veteran and father of three children, was fatally shot by U. C. Strickland, white, a filling station operator last week following an argument over some brake fluid, it was alleged at the preliminary hearing.

Strickland was bound over to Superior Court by Recorder Charles B. McLean on charges that he fatally wounded Newsome. Judge McLean ruled that "probable cause" had been found and remanded the accused to the higher court without privilege of bond.

According to the testimony of James Williams, an eye-witness to the slaying, he and Newsome stopped at the filling station operated by Strickland and asked for some brake fluid.

Not being able to put the fluid in the car, he and Newsome went back into the station and asked Strickland either to lend them a funnel or to put the fluid in for them. It was reported that Strickland refused to do either, saying "all I want from you is eight-five cents for the fluid."

SHOT IN LEFT SIDE

Newsome is alleged to have said then, "If I can't get it into the car, then I don't want it." Williams told the court that Strickland standing behind the counter, then demanded eight-five cents for the fluid and before either he or Newsome could pay him, Strickland pulled out a gun and shot Newsome in the left side felling him to the floor. Newsome's body sprawled grotesquely in the doorway, where he died within a few minutes after being shot.

Aroused by the killing of Newsome, Negro citizens of Wilson and the local branch of the NAACP engaged Atty. Herman L. Taylor of Raleigh to assist the State as private prosecutor in the trial of Strickland.

Sat.

CHARGED WITH MURDER

Strickland, who refused to take the stand in his defense at the preliminary hearing, was quoted by Police Chief A. A. Privette, as saying that the Negroes came to his station looking for beer. Informed that he did not sell beer, Strickland was quoted as saying that the Negroes threatened to go behind the counter and look for themselves.

4-11-48

He will be tried in the Wilson County Superior Court for first degree murder at the May criminal term of court.

Gas Station Man Faces May Trial

The Afro American Baltimore, Md.

Citizens Aroused Over Cold-Blooded Killing

MOTHER, DAD TALK

Can of Brake Fluid Blamed for Dispute

By ASHTON WILLIAMS

WILSON, N.C. — (Special)— "I would rather for him to have killed me than my son. He needs so much to be living now. His three children need him. Yes, his

life was stretched out before him like the daylight."

Sat.

These are the words of a grief-stricken father, Otis Newsome, who had just attended the funeral of his oldest son, Otis Jr., 26, World War II veteran, shot to death last week by U. C. Strickland, a white filling-station operator.

4-11-48

"And if he had to die, I would not have minded it so much if it had been by automobile mishap, or some accidental killing. But to have my boy shot down by a white man in cold blood for nothing . . ."

Bought 80-Cent Liquid

His throat choked and we kept silent and allowed our minds to ramble back over the events of the past week.

On March 27, young Newsome, accompanied by a friend, James Williams, came to this lucrative tobacco center to buy a can of brake fluid which Newsome purchased for 80 cents at a service station.

Operator Refused Service

Faced with the problem of putting the fluid into the car, they asked U. C. Strickland, the white operator of the filling station, if he had a funnel that they might use, or if he would put the fluid in the car.

Strickland stated that he would do neither, stating that all he wanted was the 80 cents for the fluid. Newsome is alleged to have stated if he could not get the fluid put into the car he did not want it.

Shot Ends Argument

Local citizens told the AFRO: "Strickland insisted that they pay him. But before either of the men could get the money a shot rang out. Newsome fell, he had been hit in the left side.

"He lay for a while with his feet inside of the station and his body outside of the door. There he died in just a few minutes."

Citizens Aroused

As soon as the news reached the colored section of town the citizens became aroused and hurried to the scene of the killing in large numbers. City officials feared further trouble.

When I visited the city, many citizens were still aroused over the incident, which was the chief topic of almost every group discussion.

"This is a fine place in which to live," Mrs. James Newsome, mother of the slain man told the AFRO, "if you just remember not to talk back to these white folks. Just whatever they say let it go at that."

Lawyer Retained

Herman L. Taylor, Raleigh attorney, has been retained by the Newsome family and friends, and the Wilson chapter of the NAACP to assist in the prosecution of Strickland for the slaying.

At a preliminary hearing held in the local court on March 30, Judge McClain bound Strickland over without bond for prosecution on a charge of first-degree murder at the May Criminal term of Wilson County Superior Court.

Children Need Aid

Young Newsome was discharged from the Army about a year ago, returned home, and farmed for about a year. Along with a friend he later went into the business of repairing automobiles.

His three children live with his mother. He and his wife were separated at the time of his death, his mother told the AFRO.

She expressed hope that the young mother would assist her with the care of the children now that "Otis is dead."

Mrs. Newsome also stated that "Otis had let his war risk insur-ance lapse."

N. C. Jury Deaf to Facts In Slaying of Negro, 50

The Courier

Sat 11-6-48

Pittsburgh, Pa

By A. M. RIVERA Jr.

LILLINGTON, N. C.—HARNETT COUNTY COURTHOUSE—Two white veterans, charged with the gangster-style highway murder of a Negro last November, walked out of court free men last Friday night when a jury unanimously agreed on their innocence after one hour and twenty-five minutes of deliberation.

Marvin Matthews, 24, and Wyatt Adams, 23, were charged with the murder of Charlie Smith, 50-year-old Angier (N. C.) Negro, Nov. 22, a killing which Tuskegee Institute said bordered on a lynching. During the sensational three-day trial witness after witness testified that the pair was known for beating and molesting Negro citizens of Angier. Otis Bryant and Lee Brassford, who were with Smith when he was fatally shot, positively identified Adams and Matthews as the murderers of Smith.

Constable Alton Cobb testified that Matthews had a reputation for beating and molesting Negroes in the town. Solicitor Jack Hooks and Private Prosecutor Duncan Wilson, offered Eugene Williams, surprise Negro witness, who swore that the two white defendants started a fight with Smith just before he was killed and that they also beat him.

Sat 11-6-47

He said, "Smith went off down the road and Adams followed him and Matthews stayed with me. In a few minutes," he related, "Adams retturned and then both of the white boys beat me." Williams told the court that after administering the beating to him they got into their car and went in the direction of Smith. "It was only a few minutes later before I heard three pistol shots, then I saw their car speed back past me."

JURY PROBLEM

The difficulty in selecting a jury forecasted perhaps better than anything else, the final outcome of the trial. Eleven jurors were selected and one more was needed when the special venire of fifty and the regular jury panel were exhausted.

Presiding Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn stated in a firm and resounding lecture to the court, "There is too much sentiment and prejudice. It is distressing to the court. It is not right in the sight of the court or in the sight of God. This is especially unfortunate after the disturbance from the Northern press about the racial situation. This is the first time in my forty years that I have had such an experience. It's up to me to see that the dead Negro's folk get a fair trial and I intend to do it."

OFFER ALIBI

Defense Attorneys Everett L. Doffermyre and R. F. Snipes introduced four Negroes who testified for the defense and offered an alibi for the defendants, stating that they were not at the scene at the time of the slaying. White and Negro citizens expressed the belief that these witnesses were "bought." In a statement to The Pittsburgh Courier, Attorney Wilson said, "How can your people ever expect to win if they won't stand together on a matter like this."

Witnesses Say Lives in Danger

Afro American

Tells How Bud Smith Was Slain

Sat 3-27-48

COURT TENSE

Baltimore Md

Judge Raps Jury Prospects for Bias

By ASHTON WILLIAMS

LILLINGTON, N.C. (Special)—After deliberating 27 minutes, a Harnett county jury last Friday night acquitted Marvin Matthews, and Wyatt Adams, white, both ex-GI's, of the slaying of Charlie Smith, on the streets of Angier last November 23.

Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn, who earlier in the week declared that "no fair trial could be ob tained in Harnett county for the dead man's [illegible]" stated he thought the trial "just."

But several persons who claim to have been "beaten or shot" by the defendants, declared that justice as administered in the Harnett county court had deceived them.

Tell of Threats

"I have already received threats that they are going to get us for swearing against those boys," one of the star witnesses told the AFRO "Well, I am not going to bother anybody. I am going to attend to my own business. But I am going to protect my own self if the law cannot. I don't intend to be shot down like Charlie (Bud) Smith was."

Sat 3-27-48

Citizens of Harnett county minced no words in predicting that "not a single colored person or their homes or children were safe." Many were planning to flee the county: while others stated that they would stay and "fight it out if we have to."

Stress Racial Aspect

All afternoon was spent in hearing impassioned pleas from State and defense counsel. Both sides dwelt on the racial aspects of the case.

Solictor Jack Hooks told the jury that if they did not convict the pair "Your verdict will prove that you do not believe that murder is against the law."

He implored them to uphold the name of the State and not allow it to be said that "a white man cannot be convicted for killing a colored man in this State."

"Evidence in this case is not strong enough to convict anybody, regardless of race," declared defense attorney Everette Doffermyre.

Accused Deny Bias

Both defendants denied having committed the murder and denied that they had anything against the colored race. A white deputy sheriff had stated earlier in the trial that he had "been called on several occasions by colored persons who claimed that the defendants had molested them."

The defense counsel offered witnesses to "prove" that the defendants were elsewhere when the murder was committed and several others swore to the "good character of the pair."

Several witnesses who testified Friday declared that Matthews and Adams created a reign of terror among colored persons in Harnett county by "shooting, beating and ducking their auto at them."

Terrorism Described

"I was walking along the highway when I heard several shots. One hit me in the side! They were coming from a passing car. I tried to keep going but I got so weak that I had to fall on the ground," stated Daniel Lee Brassford.

"I looked over at the bus station as I passed and saw Marvin and Wyatt getting into a green auto. But I did not pay too much attention. My buddies and I walked on down the street.

"We looked back and saw the car coming towards us. We started to leave the highway but decided to wait until the car passed. After the car passed it was too late. Bud (Charlie) Smith was dead and I was shot. The car from which the shots were fired kept going."

"Where were you shot?" shouted Defense Attorney Doffermyre.

"Right here!" stated Brassford, lifting his coat over his left side, "Do you want to see it?"

"No!" the attorney returned, "you may come down."

Courtroom Tense

The courtroom was crowded and the spectators were tense. There is no balcony. The main floor was equally divided between white and colored. Several persons were standing. Occasionally, one, or all of the several babies in the audience would yell out—but the presiding judge was tolerant. Passing vehicles disturbed proceedings quite often.

There had to be something to break the nervous tension that engulfed the courtroom. Laughter served as an outlet for pent-up emotions. Even Presiding Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn joined in occasional humorous outbursts.

Nothing "Funny"

Once he told the court that "there surely is nothing funny about the case" and at another instance Defense Attorney Doffermyre objected to the judge's laughter. His objection was sustained.

"You mean a man was shot behind you and you did not even look back?" Brassford was asked.

"That is right," the witness answered, "I figgured that it was no time to be looking back."

Irritated by the laughter, Attorney Doffermyre stormed "Look at me BOY! Stop looking at that Solicitor!"

Otis Byrant, a farmer with two kids, took the stand and told the court that he was with "Bud" Smith on the night he was killed. "In fact, a shot came very close to me."

'What do you mean by close?" defense asked.

The witness studied a while and then stated "Close means that the bullet was near me but it did not hit me." (Laughter)

Had Trouble Enough

"When you saw that Bud was shot did you go back and help him? Attorney Doffermyre asked.

"No," Byrant answered, "Because I already had one shot man (Brassford) and that was about as much as I could handle."

Daniel Brassford and all the witnesses called the white defendants by their first names. Apparently the solicitor was not familiar with them. "What did you call the defendants?" he asked Brassford.

Brassford misunderstood him. "You mean that I have to call him Mister?" he asked.

Sure of Identity

Eugene Williams told the court that he had no doubt that the two white defendants were the same persons who had beaten him. He was positive that it was their car and that one of them was driving. He lost his hat and glasses that night but he remembered well what happened.

Previous Beating Told

"Don't you have one eye?" Defense asked.

"That is right," the witness shot back, "But I can see as well with this one eye as other folk can with two."

Richard Perry came to the stand. He stated that he located Williams's hat and glasses and gave them to him. He had had the defendants arrested on a previous occasion for "beating me up."

"Didn't the grand jury find them not guilty?" he was asked.

"Yes—that's what the grand jury said," Perry replied.

William Talton was next. He told the court that the defendants had shot at him on two different occasions "and onced they ducked their car at me."

The jury was then dismissed and lawyers discussed whether or not testimony of incidents not related to the case could be admitted as evidence. The judge finally agreed that such evidence could be considered to show the state of mind the defendants were usually in.

"Are they accustomed to going around shooting up persons?" he asked.

Previous Affair Cited

A. E. Woods testified that as far back in 1946 the two white boys had molested him. On the first occasion they shot at him several times, he said. Another time, he testified, he was with several other boys and the white boys drove by and shot at them. All took cover.

Robert Perry took the stand and looked in the direction of the defendants's table. "Marvin shot Bud!" he stated. There was silence. He was the only one who made a direct accusation.

Attorney Doffermyre stated that he was going to prove to the court that Charlie Smith was not killed along the roadside where his body was found, that he was killed elsewhere and brought there.

Dead Man Quoted

To do this he called four colored witnesses to the stand. Mr. and Mrs. Curt McCloud and Mr. and Mrs. Prince McCloud, all of Angier. They said that the late Charlie Smith had come to their home looking for a shot gun, stating that he was going to "kill somebody or be killed."

The lawyers then went into a lengthy argument as to whether a dead man could be quoted or not. They decided affirmatively.

There was a constant barrage of objections from the defense lawyer. Once the judge sustained his objection.

"Thank you," he stated.

"What do you mean by thanking the court?" the judge asked angrily.

"I was glad you ruled in my favor once," the lawyer snapped.

"Well, don't do that again in my court!" the judge ordered.

Once the lawyers got into a heated argument . . . "Don't do that," the judge stated, "Why you are going to have to be working together all your lives."

Bondsmen donate bail to Carolina Negro killers

Sat 1-24-48

Los Angeles Calif

The Tribune

LILLINGTON, N. C. — A delegation of bondsmen turned up at the courthouse here last week when it was announced that the two whites indicted for the lynch-like murder of Negro Charlie Smith. 50. could make bond.

The bondsmen furnished Wyatt Adams and Marvin Matthews, identified killers of the Negro, with $5,000 bail each without cost in appreciation of their lethal efforts to uphold white suprmeacy.

Although the grand jury indicted the two on a charge of first degree murder and Solicitor Jack Hooks feels he has a strong case against the men, he says he will not try them on first, but on second, degree charges when they go to trial at the March term of court.

Negro Tried to Buy Cigarettes, Tavern Owner Shot Him to Death

(13c) N by W The Worker New York, N.Y.

Sun. 2-22-48

HOUSTON, Tex.—On Sunday night, Feb. 8, Jessie Norman, a Negro, age 32, was shot to death at a drive-in tavern in Houston by the white woman owner because he came in and asked for a pack of cigarettes. Norman was driving home his white employer, for whom he had worked steadily for ten years. A group of other white persons were in the car also. Norman was requested to stop at the first place he came to and buy some cigarettes. The Worker

When he stopped at the tavern and entered, he was apparently upbraided for coming in at the front door and for wearing his hat. Mrs. Katherine Johnson, owner of the place, ordered him to leave. The Negro left, refusing to come around to the side door to receive a pack of cigarettes.

According to witnesses he declared that Mrs. Johnson would have to come out to the people in the car to give them the cigarettes and receive the money.

★

A VERY CONFUSED and peculiar story is then given by Mrs. Johnson to the effect that the Negro came back into the tavern and pulled a gun out of his pocket. She claims to have then called to a man in the tavern to get a shotgun, but since it took too long, she drew a gun from the belt of her slacks and shot Norman three times. New York, N.Y.

Officers apparently questioned the dying man at the hospital both before and after he was operated on: they claim to have obtained from his statemnt, first, that he had a water-pistol, later that he had a cap-pistol, and finally that he had his employer's gun. Sun. 2-22-48

The dying man is reported to have made one statement simply and directly, which sums up the situation:

"I went to buy cigarettes and they shot me."

Mrs. Johnson was released in $500 bond.

The confused and contradictory statements of white witnesses bear all the earmarks of an effort to cover up the outright murder of a Negro. 2-22-48

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2 Convicts Killed in Escape Attempt

The Times Picayune

(13c) N by W

(The Associated Press)

New Orleans

Angleton, Tex., Nov. 28.—Two Negro convicts were shot and killed and another prisoner critically wounded in an attempted escape from Ramsey State Prison farm near here Saturday.

Prison General Manager O. B. Ellis said the men were shot by Guard W. P. Foster and Dog Sergeant Aubrey Cotharn after the prisoners had broken from their work gang and were tracked down through heavy underbrush.

Killed were Edward Manley, 24, serving a 10-year sentence for burglary, and John Hayes, 22, serving a five-year sentence for robbery. Mon. 11-29-48

Injured was Adolph Matthews, 20, serving five years for theft. Matthews was shot through the chest.

Ellis said Hayes was killed when he failed to heed warnings of the guards.

Dogs trailed Hanley to a tree, where he was spotted sitting near a top limb. When he got to the ground, Ellis said, the prisoner hit Cotharn and tore his shirt off. Ellis said both guards fired at Hanley, who fell dead.

Matthews was wounded, Ellis said, when he failed to stop after a two-mile chase through the woods. Mon. 11-29-48

13c 1948

Negroes by Whites (Virginia)

White Seaman Must Face Trial In Murder Case

Journal Guide

NEWPORT NEWS—John Dusek, 33-year-old merchant seaman of Morrison, Warick county, was indicted by a federal grand jury here this week for the fatal shooting of Rufus Babb, 22-year-old Norfolk Negro seaman, aboard the SS Charles A. Keefer while the ship lay in port at Savona, Italy last Dec. 13.

Sat 2-14-48

The indictment, as returned by the grand jury for the Newport News Division of the United States District Court, charges Dusek with voluntary manslaughter. Jurisdiction in the case was given the federal court because the ship on which the murder allegedly was committed was an American vessel.

Norfolk Va

The case is to be heard in the Federal District Court at Norfolk.

BACKGROUND OF CASE

The shooting grew out of an argument between Babb and Dusek while the ship lay in the Italian port last year.

According to crew members, the two had exchanged words earlier in the day, and after the supper period, Dusek is said to have approached Babb at a deck water fountain and shot him five times with an Italian-make pistol.

Dusek was brought to the States in irons, and was to have been granted preliminary hearings before a Norfolk court before jurisdiction in the case was authorized.

13c 1948 Negroes by Whites (West Virginia)

Negro Vet's Widow Tells How He Was Slain

Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA.

(The young widow of George Serrell, 24-year-old veteran of Iwo Jima, tells how her husband was shot down before her eyes following a Jim Crow "incident" on a Norfolk & Western train. The killing took place in the outskirts of Charles Town, W. Va., a few miles from Harpers Ferry.

Serrell's killers were cleared by a coroner's jury, but their prosecution is being demanded by groups throughout the country, who are addressing their appeals to President Truman and Attorney General Tom Clark.—Editor's note) Fri. 3-5-48

(As told to and released for publication by Dan Silvert, president of the Tom Paine chapter, American Veterans Committee, one of the groups demanding the punishment of George Serrell's killers.)

By Mrs. Lucille Serrell

George and I left Philadelphia on Friday, Feb. 13, arriving at Hagerstown, Md., early Saturday morning. We had to hurry to change trains there and we had no chance to buy tickets at the station for the rest of the trip to Pearisburg, Va., on the Norfolk and Western railroad. We intended to pay our fare on the train. However, we were never asked for our fare. Fri.

The conductor told us to sit in a filthy, segregated car right behind the entrance. Instead we sat on the platform of that car. The conductor ordered us back into the car again. 3-5-48

"You can't stand on that platform," the conductor said.

TAKEN OFF TRAIN

He did not say any more to us. About a couple of hours later the car stopped. A man wearing a dark coat came up to us.

"You will have to get off here," is all he said.

He did not have a uniform or badge. We did not argue with him; we just asked him where he was taking us. Fri. 3-5-48

"You will find out later," he said without even looking at us.

KEPT IN BAGGAGE ROOM

He kept us with him in a small baggage room at the station (Shenandoah Junction). It was real dark and quiet, about four o'clock in the morning.

After awhile a car came up with a woman driving it. And then a rough-looking man in a brown leather jacket and blue work pants got out. 3-5-48

The first man (I found out later he was a railroad policeman named C. M. Campbell) told the man who got out (later identified as Constable John Brown) to put our suitcases in the back of the car. "Get in" he snapped at us.

FRIGHTENED BY ACTION

I was scared to death. We did not know what was happening to us. Daily Worker

They drove us along a dark road. New York, N.Y.

Nobody said anything.

George thought we were going to be robbed and he whispered to me to "hide the money."

HID THEIR MONEY

I hid the money (about $75) in my girdle. George still had $25 with him, a $20 bill and a $5 bill. (Editor's note: This repudiates testimony of the officers that George Serrell had only $1.54 in his possession and that he could not pay the train fare.) Fri.

The next thing I knew George and Brown were fighting. No one had said a word. The only reason I feel it could have happened was that Brown was trying to rob George. 3-5-48

Right away the woman driving the car stopped it and ran away. Brown started hollering to Campbell (in the front seat), "Why don't you shoot? Why don't you shoot?"

FIRED AT HUSBAND

Campbell turned around with a pistol in his hand. He aimed and fired a shot at George. I screamed and jumped out of the car. I thought he was going to shoot us both.

I saw a truck nearby with two men in it. I heard another shot then from the car. I looked around and saw my husband fall to the ground from the back seat.

I ran to the truck and begged the men to drive me away. "They just killed my husband—they will get me—take me away as fast as you can."

They did not start right away and a man came over to the truck from the car.

I saw a flash from the car and heard the noise from another shot. Daily Worker

MADE HER GET OUT

I begged them to drive me away fast. They drove along the dark road for a little while. Then they said they were afraid to keep me and they stopped at a lighted house and told me to get off. New York, N.Y.

I ran across the field to the house and knocked on the door. A man came to the door and I asked him if he would please call the police because two men had just killed my husband.

Two state policemen came and told me to get into their automobile. They drove me back to the car. I begged them not to leave me alone, that the two men would kill me. After they looked over the car in which George was shot they drove me into a village (Charles Town). They took me to the jail and woke up the sheriff. He sat me on the chair and said, "Start talking." Fri. 3-5-48

I told him all that happened, he said, "all right."

Then he got the keys out of the drawer and locked me up. He did not tell me anything else. It was about six o'clock in the morning.

GIRL OFFERS HER FOOD

A white girl was in the cell and she offered me food that her mother brought her. The sheriff took all the plates away from us and told the girl that I was "desperate."

He asked the white girl if she wanted another cell and she said No, I seemed all right to her. She told me she was arrested for murdering her husband.

I asked the sheriff's wife if I could use the telephone to call relatives in Philadelphia for help, and she told me to wait until the sheriff woke up. 3-5-48

About one o'clock in the afternoon they let me use the telephone. I asked the sheriff how long they would keep me. He said he did not know anything about it and put me back in my cell. About four o'clock the district attorney and three other men came to my cell. The DA said that I would have to stay there for trial and would need bail.

DEMAND $5,000 BAIL

I told him I had property in Philadelphia. One of the men said that was no good, that I would need $5,000 in cash. My brother-in-law, Winston Withers, came on Tuesday to get me out but he could not raise the money right away because they told him at first I was held in only $500 bail. Daily Worker

They buried George on Wednesday but they kept me locked up so I could not be at his funeral. New York, N.Y.

They finally let me go Friday and all the time they had never once told me why they were keeping me locked up. Fri.

I want George's murderers brought to trial. 3-5-48

I want George's name cleared.

I want people everywhere to know what happened.

They will never bring George back, but maybe the horrible story of his murder will waken more people up to the awful things they do to Negroes in the South.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE SERRELL

Photo was taken on their wedding day

Philadelphian Shot While Under Arrest

Wife Who Witnessed the Tragedy Held on Attempted Assault Charge

Afro American

NAACP ASKED TO INVESTIGATE

Date 2-28-48

Fight Resulted from Argument With Conductor Over Railroad Fare

CHARLES TOWN, W. Va.—A young Philadlphian was shot to death by a railroad deputy near here early Saturday morning, Feb. 14, and his wife lodged in jail under $5,500 bail as a result of an argument that started cver railroad fare.

Both the victim, George Serrel, 23, of 3825 North 18th St., and his wife, Lucille, were taken off the train at Shenandoah Junction following a dispute with a Norfolk and Western railroad conductor. They were taken into custody by a deputy—identified as C. N. Campbell—and John Brown, Charles Town constable, herded them into an automobile, and drove toward the town.

Baltimore Md.

En route, it was said the argument cropped up again and Campbell shot Serrel twice, killing his young prisoner instantly. Serrel's body was put off at an undertakers and the automobile continued on to jail where Mrs. Serrel was held in $500 baii as a material witness.

She was later charged with assault with intent to kill, and the bail was increased to $5,500. Unable to raise bail, the young woman got in touch with her relatives in Philadelphia. A sister, Mrs. Viola Withers of 3717 North 16th St. has reportedly gone to Charles Town.

Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey said Tuesday that he had asked the national office of the NAACP to investigate the killing.

The Serrels were en route to Pearisburgh, Va. to visit her mother. The argument over the fare developed just outside of Hagerstown, Md. The passengers were under the impression they had bought a through ticket and refused to pay more, it was said.

The conductor wired ahead to Shenandoah Junction where Campbell was waiting when the train pulled in about 4 a.m.

Date 2-28-48

A coroner's inquest will be held Friday. The same day Mrs. Serrel is to be given a hearing. No action has been taken against the deputy, who told authorities Serrel was resisting arrest.

13c 1948

New York

Urge Probe Of Vet's Death

(13a)

[illegible]

BROOKLYN, N. Y. — Demand for investigation by the U. S. Department of Justice of circumstances surrounding the death of a young Brooklyn Negro war veteran on a Southern Pacific train near Kansas City on March 2, was made last week by the Brooklyn-Long Island Civil Liberties Department of the Negro Elks.

[illegible]

Alfred A. Duckett, chairman of the Civil Liberties group, in a letter to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark, has pointed out that the information about the young man's death, furnished by authorities to his parents, "is so sketchy as to provoke extreme suspicion."

[illegible]

The veteran, Clifford Perryman 25, of 172 Patchen avenue, is said to have been found dead in a locked drawing room on the train. Notification to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phineas Perryman, was made by an Undertaker in Douglas, Ariz., who shipped the body home. The death certificate accompanying the corpse, signed by O. A. Ash, Justice of the Peace for Douglas, and certifying medical officer, gave no information other than that the body had been found and that death "was caused by suicide."

13c 1948

South Carolina

Farmer Accused Of Homicide In Horry Explosion

Sheriff Sasser Charges Nichols Bachelor With Carrying Out Blast Which Killed Willoughbys

TIP IS FURNISHED BY NEGRO LABORER

Father And Daughter Died On Night Of April 29th When House Was Ripped by Blast

CONWAY, S. C., Oct. 28—The case of the mysterious blast which killed C. T. Willoughby and his 16-year-old daughter, Lou Mae, and wrecked their six-room house shortly after midnight on April 29 in Horry County was reopened during the past week by the arrest of a 52-year-old farmer.

The News Reporter
Whiteville, N.C.
Thurs 10-28-48

T. H. Granger, a bachelor of near Nichols, is held in county jail on a charge of homicide, according to Sheriff Ernest Sasser.

The sheriff said Granger was arrested on information furnished by a Negro man, Frank Miller, who was arrested last week.

Sasser quoted Miller as saying Granger was the man who blew up the Willoughby home. Miller was also quoted as saying that Granger had asked him to assist in the operation but he had refused and left the neighborhood.

Granger, brought to Horry jail from Darlington where he was held for a few days, maintained the Negro's charges against him were based on malice and trouble between the two which developed sometime ago. He said he told Miller to leave an adjoining farm and a quarrel ensued.

Granger contended it was a desire for revenge for this action that led the Negro to incriminate him in the case. He said Miller had "lied from start to finish and part of it has caught up with him. He picked me out because he had more malice toward me than anybody else."

The accused man was picked up at his home approximately 16 miles from the scene of the fatal blast. "I knew Mr. Willoughby mighty well," Granger said. "He was a mighty good friend of mine and I was of theirs."

Thurs 10-29-48

The blast, which is thought to have been caused by TNT, completely leveled the six-room house and reduced it to a pile of splinters. Debris was speard over two acres. Many of the neighbors were awakened by the explosion but saw no evidence of damage and returned to their beds. It was reported that an airplane had been heard flying low over the vicinity just prior to the explosion. The blast tore a 10-foot hole in the ground.

While on his way to work, a Negro man saw the destruction and reported it to Lacy Willoughby, a son of the dead man. The younger Willoughby found his father dead and no trace of his sister who had been blown to bits. Her body had been scattered over 75 square yards.

Several suspects have been arrested in the case but all were subsequently released.

13c 1948

Reprieves (Alabama)

Another Is Reprieved By Hesitant Governor

The Advertiser

Negro John Henry Munson, Jr., scheduled to be electrocuted early Friday morning, received a week's reprieve from Gov. Folsom Monday. Montgomery, Ala.

The convicted slayer from Jefferson County had a clemency hearing before the governor set for Thursday. Folsom explained he granted the reprieve because he is uncertain whether he will be in Montgomery Thursday for the hearing. Tues. 3-2-48

Munson was given the death penalty for the fatal shooting of a Negro woman, Gertrude Geer, in Ensley, in January, 1947. The prosecution contended Munson attempted to rob the woman's husband, Will Geer.

The defendant claimed he went into Geer's store to make a purchase and accidentally disclosed a pistol in his pocket. He said the weapon fired when Geer attempted to wrest it from him.

Negro Slayer Gets Another Reprieve

Birmingham News

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 11—(AP)—Negro John Henry Munson, Jr., has won his second-seven-day reprieve from death in less than two weeks.

Gov. James E. Folsom granted the convicted murdered another one-week stay of execution because of the chief executive will be out of the state the latter part of the week, his office said. Munson was scheduled to die in the electric chair early Friday for the slaying of Gertrude Geer, a Negro woman of Ensley, Ala. Birmingham, Ala.

Thu. 3-11-48

The governor's office also said the Negro would have a clemency hearing before Folsom March 18. Noel Jackson Grant, former Pensacola, Fla., bus driver, also is to have a clemency hearing that day.

Grant was sentenced to death for the killing of his wife, Gertha, in Baldwin County last March.

Samuel Taylor Given Tenth Stay By Folsom

The Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Samuel Taylor, 20-year-old Negro got his tenth reprieve from the electric chair Wednesday because an appeal of his case is pending in the U. S. Supreme Court. Thurs. 6-10-48

The governor's office announced that his execution, which had been scheduled early Friday morning, was put off until June 25. 6-10-48

Taylor was convicted of criminally assaulting a 14-year-old white girl at Prichard, a Mobile suburb, two years ago. Thurs.

Negro Escapes Electric Chair For 11th Time

The Record

Columbia, S.C.

WASHINGTON, July 9—(UP)—Samuel Taylor, Mobile, Ala., Negro convicted of criminal assault, escaped the electric chair for the 11th time early today when United States Supreme Court Justice Fred M. Vinson granted him a 90-day reprieve.

The 20-year-old Negro was scheduled to die at one minute after midnight until Vinson signed the stay of execution, issued to permit another appeal to the United States Supreme Court. Fri. 7-9-48

Taylor was found guilty more than two years ago of assaulting a 14-year-old white girl. This is his 11th reprieve, although his sentence has been upheld by both the Alabama and the United States Supreme Courts.

Nesbitt Elmore, Montgomery attorney, obtained the stay from Chief Justice Vinson after an appeal to Judge Leon McCord of the United States circuit court of appeals was turned down.

Wednesday, United States district Judge C. B. Kennamer refused to issue a writ of habeas corpus to free Taylor, who was first sentenced to die on June 13, 1947.

Supreme Court Justice saves Alabama boy

Tribune

Los Angeles, Calif.

Sat. 7-17-48

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Scheduled for execution last Friday, Samuel Taylor, 20-year-old rape charge victim, was granted a "last minute" reprieve on order of Supreme Court Justice Wiley Rutledge. Justice Rutledge issued an order to stay execution in response to an appeal by Frank Reeves, NAACP attorney in Washington.

Taylor's fight to escape death in the electric chair followed conviction by a Mobile, Alabama jury Nov. 19, 1946. Arrested with three other Negro youths, he was charged with the rape of a 14-year-old white girl in the small south Alabama town of Pritchard. He confessed to the crime. Later he repudiated the confession.

The NAACP apealed first to the state Supreme Court then later to the United States Supreme Court. The NAACP petition charged that the youth's conviction was obtained through the use of a confession extorted by force, violence and fear in violation of the 14th Amendment. The petition was denied.

NAACP lawyers also unsuccessfully sought a writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court. Justice Rutledge's order granted a stay of execution pending appeal. Sat. 7-17-48

20-Year-Old Youth Facing Execution Granted Reprieve

MONTGOMERY, Ala.,—Scheduled for execution early today, Samuel Taylor, 20-year-old rape charge victim, was at the last moment granted a reprieve on order of Justice Wiley Rutledge of the United States Supreme Court. Justice Rutledge issued his order to stay execution in response to an appeal by Frank Reeves, NAACP attorney in Washington.

New York Age

Taylor's long fight to escape death in the electric chair followed conviction by an Alabama jury in Mobile on November 19, 1946. Arrested with three other Negro youths, he was charged with the rape of a 14-year-old white girl in the small south Alabama town of Prichard. Beaten and threatened by police, he confessed to the crime. Later he repudiated this confession. Sat. 7-17-48

The NAACP, through a local white attorney, Nesbit Elmore, undertook Taylor's defense appealing first to the state Supreme Court then later to the United States Supreme Court. The NAACP petition charged that the youth's conviction was obtained through the use of a confession extorted by force, violence and fear in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment. The petition was denied. New York N.Y.

Following denial of the petition by the United States Supreme Court, NAACP lawyers sought a writ of habeas corpus in the United States District Court. This appeal was denied by the district court without argument. Justice Rutledge's order granted a stay of execution pending appeal.

Condemned Ala. Youth Gets Reprieve

St. Louis Argus

Friday 7-16-48

MONTGOMERY, Ala., July 9—Scheduled for execution early today, Samuel Taylor, 20-year-old rape charge victim, was at the last moment granted a reprieve on order of Justice Wiley Rutledge of the United States Supreme Court Justice Rutledge issued his order to stay execution in response to an appeal by Frank Reeves, NAACP attorney in Washington.

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Folsom Commutes Death Sentence Of Howard Rice

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala

Fri. 7-30-48

The death sentence of a 27-year-old Greene County Negro was communted to life imprisonment by Gov. Folsom Thursday afternoon following a clemency hearing in the morning.

Had not Folsom granted the commutation, the Negro, Howard Rice, was sentenced to die in the Kilby Prison electric chair shortly after midnight last night.

At the elemency hearing a plea was made for commutation on the grounds that Rice was of a "weak mind."

Bowen W. Simmons, solicitor of the 22nd Judicial Circuit and a special assistant in the Attorney General's office, said this was one of few cases where the element of self defense was not involved in the murder.

He said that Rice took a shotgun to a ballgame at Eutaw last Summer and while John Means, the slain Negro, had his back turned, took aim, lowered the gun and then took aim again and fired. Fri. 7-30-48

"It was either a cold blooded murder or Rice's mind was bad to the point of legal insanity," Simmons declared.

T. H. Boggs, Linden, 17th Judicial Circuit Solicitor, said that while he did not object to a sanity hearing for the Negro he felt that question had already been settled by the State Supreme Court when it held no evidence of insanity had been introduced during Rice's trial.

Defense Attorney Edward deGraffenried, Tuscaloosa, contended that if Rice was "weak minded" the crime did not warrant the death penalty.

Rice told Governor Folsom that the trouble began when Means' step-father threatened to kill him. He said that later Means had pulled a pistol on him.

Slayer Wins 2nd Reprieve

Tri. Defender

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Condemned to die for killing a colored woman, John Henry Munson, Jr., won his second seven-day reprieve last Tuesday in less than two weeks.

[illegible] 1954

Gov. James E. Folsom granted the convicted murderer another one-week stay of execution because the governor was out of the state last week.

Munson was scheduled to die in the electric chair at Kilby Prison near here early Friday for the slaying of Gertrude Greer of Ensley, Ala.

Chicago Def.

Folsom was in New York and Washington last week. His office also said that Munson would be given a clemency hearing before the governor Thursday, March 18.

13c 1948

Reprieves (North Carolina)

Revokes Death Edict on Negro

RALEIGH, N. C., May 6 (UP).—The North Carolina Supreme Court today reversed a Negro's death sentence because he charged there was discrimination against Negroes in picking the all-white grand jury which indicted him on charges of raping a white woman.

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

The Supreme Court wiped out the indictment, trial and conviction of Raleigh Speller, who was charged with raping Mrs. Aubrey Davis.

Speller sought twice before his trial to have the indictment quashed

Fri 5-7-48

Today's opinion quoted the lower court testimony by the clerk of the Bertie County Board of Commissioners "that the names of Negroes in jury box No. 1 are printed in red, and those of whites are printed in black; that the commissioners pass upon the person whose name is drawn . . . that in his 17 years as clerk he has never seen the name of a Negro placed on the approved list of prospective jurors.

5-7-48

Negro Pleads Guilty In Cab Driver Killing

The Advertiser
Montgomery
Ala.
Thurs. 8-5-48

MOBILE, ALA.—(AP)—Charlie Smith, 25-year-old Negro, pleaded guilty Wednesday to a charge of murdering a Mobile taxi driver. He was bound over to the Mobile County grand jury without bond.

The Negro was arraigned in a heavily-guarded courtroom presided over by City Judge William M. Bekurs.

He was charged with the bludgeon slaying of Monroe Young Jackson, 32, taxi driver, last July 11, in a robbery attempt. After his arrest he was rushed to Kilby Prison at Montgomery for safekeeping. 8-5-48

Smith was returned here Tuesday for questioning in three other robbery assaults on taxi drivers here. Detective Capt. Talley Rollings said none of the three victims could positively identify Smith as their assailant. Thurs.

Chief Of Police Is Slain; Night Officer Injured

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Shooting Takes Place When Attempt Is Made To Jail Oxford Negro

Sat. 5-8-48

OXFORD, ALA.—(AP)—Police Chief R. E. Sparks was killed and Night Police Chief Doc Billingsley was critically wounded here Friday when they attempted to arrest a Negro.

Mayor Hemphill Whiteside said the police officers were shot by one of their own guns.

Both officers were taken to the Anniston Memorial Hospital where Sparks died shortly after being admitted. Billingsley's condition was listed as critical.

The Negro, whose identity was not immediately learned, was lodged in Calhoun County jail at Anniston along with three companions, who, the mayor said, were not involved in the shooting. The Advertiser

Whiteside gave this version of what happened:

R. C. Cobb, operator of a grocery here, summoned the officers to his store where he said a Negro man was creating a disturbance. Montgomery, Ala

When the officers arrived they attempted to put the man in their automobile. The Negro grabbed one of their guns and began firing.

Cobb said he then ran to get a gun and held the Negro at bay until Whiteside arrived on the scene only minutes later.

Whiteside said he did not know the Negro or any of his companions, who were sitting in a nearby car. The mayor said he thought they were "just passing through." 5-8-48

The shooting occurred before several witnesses, and Mayor Whiteside said a large crowd immediately gathered at the scene.

Birmingham, Ala. The News Thurs. 9-16-48

13c

RECORDING USED IN COURT—A voice recording was admitted as evidence in a murder trial at Talladega yesterday. The voice recording machine is shown above. With the machine are, standing: W. D. Ashcraft, Sylacauga police chief, and Billy Summerlin, a member of the Sylacauga police force, and, seated: Ben Allen, investigator for the State Bureau of Identification and Investigation.

The News 9-16-48

'Confession' On Recording Used In Trial

The News
Birmingham, Ala.
Thurs. 9-16-48

TALLADEGA, Ala., Sept. 16—A reported confession of a Birmingham man in the slaying of a Sylacauga taxicab driver was heard in court here yesterday.

But the "confession" did not come from the lips of the man, Herron Hamilton, who was in the courtroom.

The words came from a voice recording machine and they were allowed as evidence in the trial of Hamilton, charged with the knife-slaying of J. W. Pike, Sylacauga taxicab driver, July 4. 9-16-48

The recording of the reported confession was allowed by Judge W. S. DeBardeleben after it had been played and State Investigator Ben Allen had identified the recorded voices as his own and that of Hamilton. The News

Hal Howard, defense attorney, objected to the recording being admitted as evidence, but his objection was overruled. Birmingham, Ala.

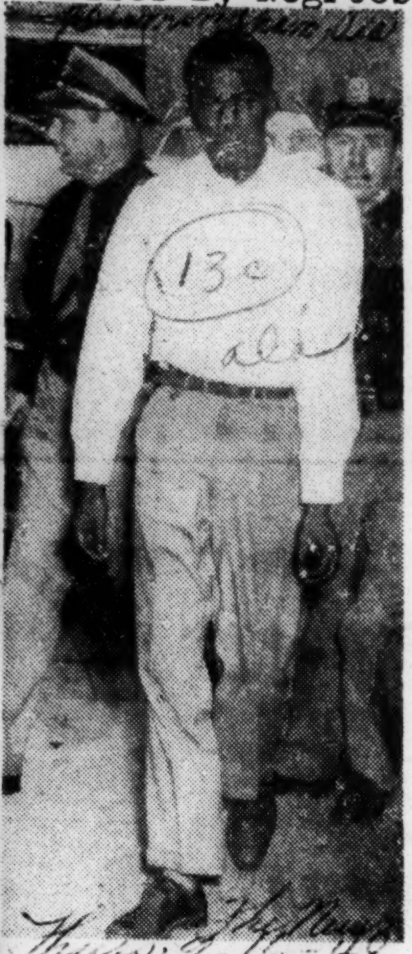
"I cut his throat," a voice on the transcription said. Investigator Allen said this was the voice of Hamilton, who, according to Mr. Allen, confessed to the slaying of Mr Pike. Thurs. 9-16-48

Sheriff Earl Howell testified that Hamilton confessed in his presence.

Yesterday marked the second day of the Hamilton trial.

Hamilton, taking the stand in his own behalf yesterday, denied killing the Sylacauga taxicab driver, who was stabbed to death and robbed after he had answered a call.

13c Ala



13c
Ala
Thurs. 9-16-48 The News

STANDS TRIAL—Herron Hamilton (above), Birmingham, is charged with slaying J. W. Pike, Sylacauga taxicab driver.

Negro Held In Oklahoma For Alabama Shooting

Montgomery Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

TULSA, OKLA., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Byrd Lee, 28-year-old Negro, was held today by FBI agents today on a fugitive warrant from Alabama where he is under indictment for the slaying last May 2 of James Herschel Phillips, Rogersville, Ala., cab driver.

FBI agents and city detectives said Lee offered no resistance last night when he was arrested. Officers said he made a voluntary statement concerning the crime but details were withheld pending the arrival of Alabama officers. Sun. 12-19-48

MURDER OF MOBILE TAXI MAN ADMITTED

Times Picayune

(International News Service)

Mobile, Ala., Aug. 5. — Charlie Smith, 25-year-old Negro, pleaded guilty Wednesday to a charge of murdering a Mobile taxi driver last July 11. Smith was bound over to a grand jury without bail. The Negro was arraigned in a heavily guarded courtroom presided over by City Judge William M. Bekurs. The taxi driver was Monroe Jackson, 32, driver for the Yellow Cab Company.

Fri. 8-6-48
New Orleans

Pair Of Negroes Jailed, Charged In Store Slaying

The News
Birmingham, Ala.
Wed. 2-4-48

Say Murder Weapon Is Recovered From Local Pawn Shop

In a whirlwind investigation, city detectives today have "broken" the 48-hour-old slaying of W. J. Trotter, Northside storekeeper, and jailed two Negroes on murder charges.

A pistol, believed to be the murder weapon, has been recovered, and one of the Negroes has signed a complete statement, giving full details of the crime, police said.

Announcement of solution of the early-Monday slaying was made early today by Police Commissioner Eugene Connor, who remained up with his officers all night to break the case.

Helping in the investigation was Police Chief C. F. Eddins; Homicide Detectives J. R. Norrell, G. V. Evans and M. O. Thorn; Detectives W. J. Haley and R. A. McMurdo and Officers Charles Stevens and W. W. Casey. Wed 2-4-48

The two Negroes were identified as Jack Thomas (Black Jack) Sims, 24, of 521 Ninth Court, North, and Percy Lee Haygood, alias Perry, 1022 North 17th Street.

Sims early today signed a complete statement, according to police, in which he admitted participation in the robbery-slaying, and asserted the death shots were fired by Haygood. Haygood has denied participating in the robbery or killing the storekeeper.

However, detectives said they they had recovered from a pawn shop a pistol which was identified by Haygood as belonging to him. The officers charged it was the murder weapon. They also said it was pawned after the slaying.

Trotter was found shot to death early Monday behind a counter in his creamery, 940 North 18th Street. He was discovered by Ples McWilliams, a Negro who rents a house adjoining the creamery. The storekeeper had been robbed of about $100. He had been shot three times, twice through the head and once through the chest.

Two half-empty milk bottles and a half-consumed box of crackers were on a counter. A partially-opened can of sardines was in a wall can-opener. The News

Sims and Haygood were arrested about 6 p.m. yesterday on a downtown street by Officers Casey and Stevens. They were brought to headquarters, where questioning was begun. Sims "broke" around 3 a.m. and had signed his statement by 4 a.m. Questioning of the other Negro continued.

In his signed statement, Sims said he and Haygood planned the robbery Saturday night. Sims, a taxicab driver, told officers he drove his cab all Sunday night, and later abandoned the vehicle and caught a bus to a spot near the Trotter Creamery where he met Haygood. Wed 2-4-48

Sims, in his statement, said they planned the robbery to get money to "go to New York." Police said that when Sims' pistol was taken into custody, it appeared dirty and dusty, indicating it had not been fired recently. Birmingham, Ala.

Sims told the officers he and Haygood then went into the store, arriving about 7:25. They said Mr. Trotter was alone, and they ordered sardines, crackers and milk. Sims said Haygood opened his can with a pocket knife, then asked the grocer for a second can. He also asked Mr. Trotter to open it himself.

Sims, in his statement, said that as Trotter began opening the can, Haygood pulled out his pistol and told Mr. Trotter that "this is a robbery."

At this point, officers said, Sims related, the storekeeper turned to the right suddenly "like he was going after a weapon," and Haygood fired his pistol once. The bullet struck the storekeeper in the back of his head. The News

Sims said that as Trotter slumped behind the counter, a second shot was pumped into the man's head. He said he left Haygood and ran from the store. He told officers that as he left the store, he noticed an 11-year-old Negro across the street. He also told officers he did not hear the third shot. Birmingham, Ala.

Sims told officers he went back to the place where had left his cab and then drove home. He said he then buried his pistol—which he claimed was not loaded during the robbery-slaying—under his house. He later returned to his residence and took the weapon to the home of a relative. Wed. 2-4-48

Yesterday morning, Sims continued, he met Haygood near his taxicab stand with the intention of demanding a "split" of whatever loot was obtained from the store. Before they could talk, however, the operator of the cab company called him and put him to work, Sims said.

Sims added that he was unable to see Haygood again before they were arrested.

Detectives said Sims had no money on his person when arrested. Haygood, however, had about $69. Haygood is an ex-convict. Sims has been arrested on traffic violation counts.

Haygood, detectives said, was identified after his arrest by the 11-year-old Negro boy seen by Sims as he fled the store. The small Negro picked Haygood out as being inside the store shortly before news of the slaying was known.

Commissioner Connor today had high praise for police and detective officers who broke the case. He also singled out E. W. Jackson, chief of the fingerprint bureau.

Haygood broke into the news several weeks ago when he reportedly fired several shots at a Negro who was breaking into the Towles Cleaning Plant, located across the street from his residence. Wed. 2-4-48

The rapid solution of the brutal slaying called attention to investigation of the slaying last December of a Shadyside grocer. The victim, Thomas C. Solomon, 61, 2502 Bush Boulevard, was found shot and stabbed to death in his store. He had been robbed of about $400. Several hours later, Nehemiah Green, 24-year-old Negro, was arrested. He later was bound over to the Grand Jury. Wed. 2-4-48

4-15-48

BULLETS END CAREER—
Dewey Rickles.

Deputy's Assailant Killed As He Flees House In Morris

The News
Thurs. 4-15-48
Birmingham, Ala.

Deputy Sheriff Dewey Rickles was shot to death early last night while attempting to arrest a Negro at Morris.

The Negro, Lott Vergess, 52, was shot and killed a few minutes later by Deputy P. D. Logan.

Rickles was shot three times in the head with a .22 caliber rifle when he had entered the house in search of Vergess.

* * *

THUS ENDED an outstanding 18-year record. The deputy died with his pistol still in its holster.

Rickles had gone to make the arrest on a complaint from J. T. Willis, superintendent of the Ray Loper Lumber Company at Morris. Willis had complained that Vergess was creating a disturbance around the lumber camp and threatening residents with a gun.

Rickles called the sheriff's office for help in making the arrest. Deputies Logan and A. A. Woods were sent to the scene.

The following account was given by Sheriff Holt A. McDowell:

After arriving at the house, Deputy Logan went to the back door. Deputies Rickles and Woods approached the front. Rickles knocked on the door. His knock was answered by a woman's voice asking "who is it?"

"This is Mr. Dewey," the deputy replied. The News

The door opened and Rickles stepped inside. Just then, Deputy Woods said, Deputy Logan called to him to come to the back door.

Woods said he had jumped off the porch and started for the rear when he heard shots. Thurs.

"I knew they were not from Dewey's gun and I ran back to the front door and looked in. Dewey was lying on the floor. I knew he was dead."

Shortly thereafter Vergess ran out the back door carrying the rifle. Deputy Logan opened fire and killed the Negro. 4-15-48

The two deputies then entered the house to find Rickles dead—his pistol still in his holster.

Three empty .22 caliber shells were found behind a curtained doorway between the kitchen and living room, indicating where the Negro had been hiding when Rickles entered.

The woman, Flossie Mae Jones, 40, was brought to County Jail for questioning by Coroner Joe L. Hilderbrand.

Site Where Deputy Slain Is Blasted

The News

The Negro residence in Morris where Deputy Sheriff Dewey Rickles was ambushed and killed Wednesday night by a Negro he sought to arrest, was damaged by an explosion Thursday night, Chief Deputy Wilton Hogan said.

The explosive was thrown onto the back porch of the unoccupied house, causing only minor damage, Hogan said. Birmingham, Ala.

Lott Vergess, 52, was shot to death as he attempted to flee from the house after killing Deputy Rickles with three shots from a .22 caliber automatic rifle. Sat.

Deputy Rickles had gone to the house to arrest Vergess on a breach of peace complaint. Residents of the area had reported the Negro was threatening several persons with a gun. 4-17-48

T. J. Willis, a resident of Morris, said a second explosion was heard in the area last night. The sheriff's office had no report on the second blast early today.

Woman Faces Murder Charge In Rickles Case

The News

Flossie Mae Jones, 40, Negro, is in County Jail today, charged with murder in the death of Deputy Sheriff Dewey Rickles at Morris last Wednesday night. Deputy J. L. Boggan swore out the warrant yesterday afternoon. Tues

The woman has been held in jail on a technical charge since Deputy Rickles was killed. 4-20-48

Sheriff Holt McDowell said she invited Mr. Rickles to come into the house, where he was shot to death by Lott Vergess, 52, Negro. Deputy Pat Logan shot Vergess to death as Vergess ran from the house with a .22 rifle used in slaying Deputy Rickles.

Deputy Rickles had gone to the house to investigate a report that Vergess had threatened to shoot others at the lumber camp at Morris. Birmingham, Ala.

Deputies R. R. Dudley and T. L. Mehaffey arrested the Jones woman.

Sheriff Killed In Gun Battle; Police Shoot Alleged Negro Slayer

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.—(AP)—A veteran deputy sheriff was shot to death Wednesday night and a fellow officer fatally wounded his alleged slayer a few minutes later, the sheriff's office said.

Deputy Dewey Rickles, 52, was shot three times in the head when he entered a Negro home at nearby Morris, Sheriff Holt McDowell said. A Negro identified as Lot Barges, about 45, was later shot to death. Fri.

Rickles had gone to the house with two other officers on a complaint that a Negro had created a disturbance at a lumber camp.

Deputies P. D. Logan and A. A. Wood, who accompanied Rickles, said the officer was shot with a .22 caliber automatic rifle as he stepped into the living room.

The two deputies then stationed themselves at the front and rear of the house. Approximately 15 minutes later, Barges came out of the front door and started around to the side, the deputies said. Logan opened fire with his pistol and the Negro fell, mortally wounded, they said.

The lumber camp near where the shooting occurred is about 17 miles north of Birmingham.

Sheriff McDowell, a group of deputies and highway patrolmen arrived at the scene a few minutes after the first report of the slaying to find both Rickles and Barges dead. 4-16-48

Rickles had served as a peace officer here for more than 20 years. He is survived by his wife and a daughter.

Negro Is Held In Mobile Taxi Driver's Death

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
Mon 7-12-48

Confession Is Reported

Slain Man Robbed Of $10, Watch

MOBILE, ALA.—A Mobile taxicab driver, father of a 10-year-old girl, was bludgeoned to death here early Sunday in a robbery that netted the Negro assailant $10 and a wrist watch.

Monroe Y. Jackson, 32, was found lying semi-conscious in a ditch in the outskirts of Mobile near his blood-spattered yellow cab. He was found at 2:10 a.m. and died at City Hospital a little over an hour later.

Within two hours Mobile city police arrested a 23-year-old Negro at his home and charged him with murder.

He was booked as Charlie Smith, and Capt. Talley Rollings and Solicitor Carl M. Booth said Smith orally confessed the slaying. The officers later put the confession in writing and said the Negro had signed it in the office of Sheriff W. H. Holcombe.

Crime Reconstructed

The murder weapon, Rollings

and Booth said, was a solid instrument shaped like a milk bottle commonly used at fairs and concessions stands as a target for baseballs in prize games.

Officers reconstructed the crime this way:

Jackson picked up Smith on a call to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad passenger station about 2 a.m. Smith gave as his destination a suburban address.

Arriving at the address, Smith asked the driver: "How much do I owe you?" The Advertiser

Jackson told him the fare and Smith reached behind him and pulled the instrument, hitting Jackson on the head, rendering the driver helpless. Mon

The Negro took $10, some small change and the victim's wrist watch. 7-12-48

Jackson's groans were heard by a Negro woman who called police. Montgomery Ala

Describing the slaying as "one of the most brutal in this city in history," Rollings and Booth said Smith was "positively identified" as the assailant.

Clues Not Disclosed

Clues which the officers did not disclose led them to Smith's house, where the officers said they found blood-soaked clothes in a tub of water. Jackson's wallet, wrist watch and money also were found at Smith's house, officers said.

It was during subsequent questioning that Smith readily admitted the crime, Bollings and Booth said. Mon

Jackson leaves a wife, a daughter, 10-year-old Olivet Jackson, and his parents. 7-12-48

Police said they were investigating the possibility of Smith's connection with three previous taxicab robberies recently in Mobile, Rollings said. The victim of one of these holdups is still hospitalized with serious wounds.

Booth and Rollings said the Negro "would be, or has been, taken to Kilby Prison, Montgomery, as a precautionary measure. No signs of disorder on account of the slaying have been reported by officers and newsmen at the county jail, saw no evidence of potential violence.

Mobile Officers Seek To Quiz Kilby Negro

Advertiser Montgomery Ala

MOBILE, ALA. — (AP) —State Solicitor Carl M. Booth called upon Detective Capt. Talley Rollings, Monday, to return a 23-year-old Negro from Kilby Prison to Mobile for questioning in three taxicab holdups here. 7-27-48

The Negro, Charlie Smith, of Mobile, was removed to Kilby for safekeeping two weeks ago. Rollings said Smith had signed a statement he had bludgeoned to death Monroe Young Jackson, taxi driver, in a robbery. He was charged with murder.

"I do not feel there will be any mob violence if he is returned to the Mobile County jail," Booth said in a letter to Rollings.

Fayette Negro Shoots Policeman, Wife, Self

Advertiser

FAYETTE, Ala. — (AP) — Police Chief Charles Sides, 63, and a Negro man and his wife were killed here Friday night when the officer sought to solve a domestic squabble.

Sheriff Travis Lawrence said the dead Negro, Dewey Freeman, 35, killed his wife and the officer and then shot hiself.

Montgomery, Ala

The Freeman woman asked Chief Sides to go with her to settle an arguent. Sun. 8-22-48

Sheriff Lawrence said Freeman struggled with the officer, managed to get his gun, and used it first on Sides and then on his wife. Freeman then took his own life, Lawrence said.

DEPUTY SHERIFF DIES FROM NEGRO'S BULLET

Commercial Appeal

Accompanying Officer Shoots Assailant To Death

HAD BEEN HANDCUFFED

Memphis, Tenn.

By TED WOODS

Special to The Commercial Appeal

HELENA, Ark., June 29.—Deputy Sheriff L. D. Weaver, 28, was shot to death as he attempted to place a negro under arrest at the Lakeview community, 15 miles south of Helena, shortly after noon Tuesday.

Herman Dolphin, 22-year-old negro war veteran, who fired the fatal bullet, was himself shot to death by Deputy Sheriff Clay Oliver within seconds after Mr. Weaver fell. Wed. 6-30-48

Elaine Resident Threatened

Mr. Weaver and Mr. Oliver had gone to Lakeview to arrest Dolphin on a disturbing the peace charge filed by A. M. Stewart of Elaine, who said the negro threatened him with a pistol and cursed him when he stopped at Dolphin's Service Station and sought assistance in shifting the load on his truck.

Mr. Oliver said the negro had been handcuffed and was being escorted to the car when he asked permission to return to the station to "turn the power off." Mr. Weaver accompanied the negro to the door of the station while Mr. Oliver walked to the car and removed a rifle from the back seat to make room for the negro.

Apparently, the negro had a pistol in the pocket of a Government issue raincoat hanging just inside the door, Mr. Oliver said. Dolphin turned suddenly and fired from the doorway, the bullet striking Mr. Weaver just above the heart.

Dolphin fired "five or six shots" at Mr. Oliver, who returned the fire with the rifle, one bullet taking effect in the negro's right eye. As Dolphin fell inside the door to the tiny station, Mr. Oliver grabbed Mr. Weaver's shotgun and fired a full charge into the negro's left side and arm. 6-30-48

Posse Returns To Scene

A posse led by Sheriff E. P. Hickey and Mr. Oliver returned to the scene of the shooting and found Dolphin dead. He was believed to have died instantly from the bullet through his eye.

Dolphin's father told officers his son served in the Army but was never overseas. He said his son spent considerable time in Army hospitals after being injured during his service period.

Mr. Weaver came to Helena during his boyhood and attended the Helena High School. He was a star football player. He saw service in the Pacific theater with the United States Navy and joined the Helena Police Department shortly after his discharge late in 1945. He became a deputy sheriff in November of 1946.

He leaves his wife and daughter, Bobbye Carol, 4 years old; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Weaver, and three brothers, Charles, currently serving with the Army in California; Sergt. Elbert Weaver of the Helena Police Department, and Floyd G. Weaver, all of Helena.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete.

Police Capture Admitted Killer

Atlanta Constitution

Mon 12-27-48

HELENA, (Ark. — UP) — The Negro killer of a white plantation manager was captured here yesterday after Mississippi and Arkansas police sent a burst of tear gas into a home where he had taken refuge.

Atlanta, Georgia

Sheriff Greek Rice, of Clarksdale, Miss., said that the 35-year-old Negro, identified as William Bell, a tenant farmer, had confessed to the slaying of 38-year-old C. W. Broughton on a Delta plantation near Clarksdale last week.

Rice said that Bell has been charged with first degree murder. He declined to disclose the Negro's whereabouts.

OFFICERS NAB NEGRO WANTED FOR SLAYING

Suspect In Plantation's Manager's Death Captured By Trio Near Helena, Ark.

Commercial Appeal

By CLARENCE TAYLOR

Special to The Commercial Appeal

HELENA, Ark., Dec. 26.—A trio of Mississippi and Arkansas officers, using tear gas to lay siege to a tenant house near here Sunday, captured a negro wanted for the slaying of a Clarksdale, Miss., plantation manager last Thursday.

Memphis, Tenn.

Mon 12-27-48

Sheriff Greek Rice of Coahoma County, Miss., said William Bell, 35, has confessed to the slaying of 38-year-old C. W. Broughton, manager of the King and Anderson Plantation near Clarksdale.

Kept in Secret Spot

The sheriff said Bell has been charged with first degree murder.

"I'm not saying where we have him, but we've got him (Bell) in custody," the sheriff added.

Chief Deputy Sheriff N. F. Black of Clarksdale, acting on information as to Bell's whereabouts, went to the Carruth Plantation eight miles northwest of Helena Sunday afternoon about 3:30. He was accompanied by Deputies Clay Oliver and Gene Hilliard of Phillips County, Ark.

The officers found Bell in the home of an aunt, but he refused to come out at the officers' command. Mon-12-27-48

"The men didn't know whether Bell was armed or not, and they weren't taking any chances," Sheriff Rice said. "They called him four times to come out and he wouldn't. After the four call they gave him a shot of tear gas and he came out of the house with his hands up."

Sheriff Rice said there were "a number" of witnesses to the slaying of Mr. Brougohton last week.

Mr. Broughton, he said, had been called to the Union Plantation Thursday morning to investigate a disturbance caused by Bell, a former tenant, and order him off the place.

He Eluded Bloodhounds

As Mr. Broughton approached the tenant house occupied by Bell's former wife, Bell opened the door and fired, Sheriff Rice said. Mr. Broughton was shot in the chest and died within a few minutes.

A posse, using bloodhounds from Parchman Penal Farm, pursued Bell through the swamplands of Sunflower River near Friar Point, Miss., but the negro eluded the posse and made his way into Arkansas. Mon-12-27-48

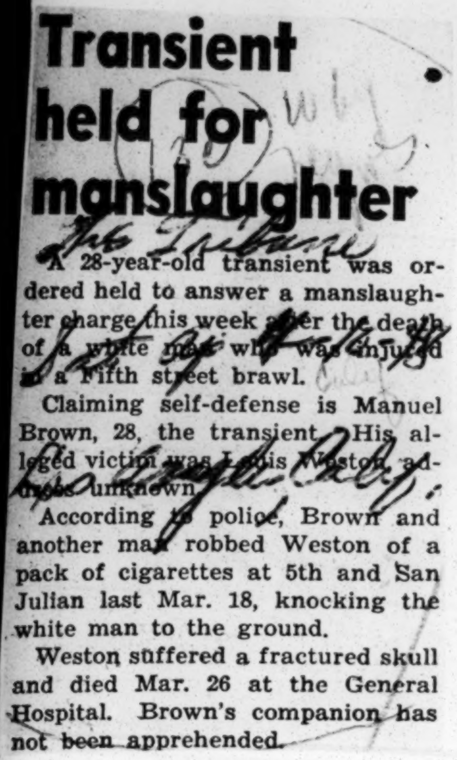
Mr. Broughton, a former Tennessean, had been manager of the Mississippi plantation for 12 years.

Bell's capture was the second in two days of fugitives wanted for slayings committed in Mississippi. Murdock Hinton, 48, surrendered near Hurley, Miss., Saturday morning and admitted the slaying of four persons near Lucedale last Tuesday, police said. The victims were Hinton's former wife; his 18-year-old daughter, Gloria; his two-month-old granddaughter, and George County Sheriff J. E. Nelson who attempted to arrest him for the other three slayings.

Mon-12-27-48

13c 1948

Whites by Negroes (California)



Transient held for manslaughter

The Tribune

A 28-year-old transient was ordered held to answer a manslaughter charge this week after the death of a white man who was injured in a Fifth street brawl.

Sept 4-1948

Claiming self-defense is Manuel Brown, 28, the transient. His alleged victim was Louis Weston, address unknown.

Los Angeles Calif.

According to police, Brown and another man robbed Weston of a pack of cigarettes at 5th and San Julian last Mar. 18, knocking the white man to the ground.

Weston suffered a fractured skull and died Mar. 26 at the General Hospital. Brown's companion has not been apprehended.

13c 1948 Whites By Negores (Canada)

White Jury Frees Negro In Canada

Defender

Sat 10-30-48

Chicago Ill

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia — An all white jury debated only two hours here last week before freeing a Negro suspect in the death of a 34-year-old white wife of a Canadian naval officer.

While American spectators in the small courtroom sat in stunned amazement at this display of Canadian justice as compared to that in certain sections of the United States, Cyril Tanner, foreman of the jury delivered the verdict amid a din of cheering.

The suspect, 32-year-old Victor Robert, a fireman, smiled confidently as he was tried for the alleged brutal murder of Mrs. Mapreen MacDonald, and when the verdict was pronounced told friends:

"I am happy. I have had a fair trial."

Ex-Atlantan Admits Slaying Florida Nurse

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 4-14-48

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., April 13—(AP)—Sheriff Rex Sweat Tuesday announced he had received an oral confession in the slaying last Tuesday of Mrs. Anna Lewis, resident nurse at Bolles Military School here.

Sheriff Sweat said Alonzo Washington, 26, a Negro janitor at the school for two years, had admitted entering the infirmary with the intention of criminally assaulting the nurse. Sweat said Washington told him he hit Mrs. Lewis over the head to silence her; dumped her body on her bedroom floor and piled bedding over it and set it afire to cover his crime.

Sheriff Sweat said Washington was one of very few employees at the boys' school some seven miles from the city who could not account for his movements from just before noon last Tuesday until the fire was discovered at 12:30 p. m. (EST).

The 37-year-old nurse was the wife of an Atlanta traveling salesman for beauty shop supplies.

The oral confession was taken down by State Atty. William Hallowes, III, in addition to a court reporter, in the presence of Sweat and other officials.

Hallowes said no attempt would be made to have Washington sign it. The Constitution

Hallowes said Washington told them he was a native of Atlanta, and had a jail record starting at 17. Hallowes said he told police he later moved to Tampa and was convicted there twice on larceny charges. Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Lewis, who had been at the school seven years, was talking with faculty members in the canteen shortly before noon. Then she left to go to her quarters in the small infirmary adjacent to one wing of the school. Wed.

Hallowes and Sweat quoted Washington as saying he met Mrs. Lewis in the infirmary hall, forced her into her room and hit her several times with a large ashtray.

The fire charred Mrs. Lewis' bedroom but spread only sporadically to one other room and the hall. 4-14-48

Because of the bedding, her body was protected and only one ankle was burned. Kerosene had been flung all about the room, firemen said.

Janitor Held In Death Of Nurse

Daily World

4-14-48

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — (SNS) A janitor of Bolles Military school here has reportedly admitted slaying a white nurse in the school's infirmary. Atlanta, Ga.

The janitor's name was given as Alonzo Washington, 26, who stated, according to Sheriff Rex Sweat, that he struck the victim in the head to silence her and set fire to bedding piled over the body in an attempt to cover the crime.

The nurse's name was listed as Mrs. Anna Lewis. Wed. 4-14-48

Did Alonzo Washington Murder White Nurse?

The Florida Tattler

PUBLIC OPINION AND RUMORS OF MYSTERY MURDER

Sat 4-24-48

1. Alonzo Washington did not commit actual murder of white nurse at Bolles Military School.
2. Nurse was murdered the night before at some other place and brought to the school infirmary.
3. Married man involved. Jacksonville, Fla.
4. Six Negro suspects in jail.
5. No finger prints found.
6. Lie Detector can not prove anything.
7. Accused would have been lynched if guilty.
8. Accused covering up for someone else.
9. Murder has all the ear marks of a white murderer.
10. There were no clues.
11. Accused man's wife forced to talk.
12. Accused has good chance for freedom.
13. Someone had to be arrested and accused, because it's time for election.
14. Watch for other arrests within the next ten or twelve days.
15. Murder Mystery is not solved.

Negro Freed Of Suspicion

The Constitution

Constitution State News Service

CAMILLA, Sept. 2—A Richland Negro, questioned in connection with the Ormond, Fla., beach slaying of an East Point blonde and a University of Kentucky student has been freed of suspicion, Mitchell County Sheriff W. M. Harris reported today. Fri 9-3-48 Atlanta, Ga.

The search, meanwhile, swung to Florida for the Negro named by Clarence Albury, confessed Negro participant in the shooting of Miss Mary Hucks and Gregory Blount, as his companion in the moonlight attack nearly three weeks ago.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation and Sheriff Harris questioned the Richland Negro at his Stewart County home after learning Albury had been seen with him a few days prior to Sheriff Harris' capture of Albury in a stolen car near Camilla.

Sheriff Harris said the investigation showed Albury did not meet the Stewart Countian until Albury fled to Georgia. He said the Richland Negro was not connected with Albury in the two Georgia burglaries attributed to Albury.

Albury is being held by Florida authorities while officers search for the companion he named.

Governor Signs Death Warrant

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — (SNS) — Florida's Governor Caldwell signed a death warrant Tuesday for Alonzo Washington, who had been convicted in April of the murder of a white nurse, Mrs. Fred W. Lewis, at the Bolles school in Jacksonville.

The execution date was set for August. Washington is alleged to have beaten the nurse to deah with an ash tray.

Florida Jury Probes Beach Slayings

Constitution

Tues 10-19-48

DELAND, Fla. — (AP) — Volusia County's Fall term Grand Jury was sworn in yesterday and immediately plunged into an investigation of the slaying of a young man and woman near Ormond Beach on Aug. 14. Atlanta, Ga.

The jury questioned four Georgia officials and the reported girl friend of Clarence Alburty, 38-year-old Negro convict who has told officers he was present at the slayings.

Alburty is in custody of Volusia officers in an undisclosed jail.

Late yesterday it appeared the jury has concluded its investigation into the Ormond murders of Mary Hucks, 24, of East Point, Ga., and Gregory Blount, 23, of Lexington, Ky.

Questioned were Lt. W. D. White, Americus, Ga., of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation; Warden Macon Poston of the Donaldsonville, Ga., convict camp in which Alburty was a prisoner; County Commissioner Gordon Spooner of Seminole County; Charles W. Greer, Georgia highway patrolman from Donaldsonville; and Clara Jones, of Donaldsonville, said to be Alburty's girl friend. Tues 10-19-48

Spooner previously has told Georgia prison officials Alburty was working on a road project in the County on Aug. 16, two days after the beach murders. Poston also has confirmed the Aug. 16 escape date in earlier statements.

The escape date has been under investigation by the Georgia State Board of Correction.

MRS. INGRAM AWAITS
JUDGE'S DECISION

April 2, 1948

N.A.A.C.P. N.Y. N.Y.

Fri 4-2-48

NEW YORK, N.Y., April 1,--While awaiting the decision of Judge William M. Harper on the motion for a new trial, Mrs. Rose Lee Ingram this week issued a statement from her prison cell in Americus Ga., authorizing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "to take complete and exclusive charge of the defense of myself and my minor sons, Wallace Lee and Sammie Lee Ingram, in the cases in which we have been convicted of murder in the Superior Court of Schley County, Ga."

Following argument last week by NAACP attorneys for a new trial, Judge Harper announced that he would reserve his decision which he said he would hand down within the next few days. This decision is now expected any day. Mrs. Ingram, a widow, and her sons were convicted last fall in the self-defense slaying of a neighboring white farmer.

In her statement last week, Mrs. Ingram gave exlusive authority to the NAACP "to raise funds for our defense, and no other person or organization is so authorized, unless permission is granted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. All contributions to our defense coming from outside the State of Georgia may be sent to that Association at No. 20 West 40th Street, New York N.Y. All Georgia contributions shall be sent to Attorney A. T. Walden, suite 200, Walden Building, Atlanta, Georgia, for deposit to the Ingram Defense Fund of the Georgia Conference of N.A.A.C.P. Branches."

New York N.Y. 3-26-48

Judge Weighs Motion For New Ingram Trial

Daily Worker Fri 3-26-48

By Mary Southard

AMERICUS, Ga., March 25.—The motion for a new trial for Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two sons, Wallace and Sammie Lee, was taken under advisement by Judge W. M. Harper in the Sumter County courthouse here. He said he would announce his decision in a few days.

The courthouse, deserted all morning, swarmed with state troopers as well as policemen when the hearing on the motion opened at 2 p.m. Negro photographers were barred at the stairs by troopers, and representatives of the **Atlanta Daily World**, leading Negro paper, were shoved out of the courtroom by the bailiff, until A. T. Walden, NAACP advisory defense counsel, got permission for their admittance from the judge.

Some 70 Negro spectators from Americus and the surrounding countryside crowded the front seats of the segregated balcony, leaning over to hear the proceedings. Thirty white spectators, farmers and smattering of townspeople, were scattered around the court room itself. 3-26-48

REVIEWS FACTS

Daily Worker

Defense counsel Hawkins Dykes, Troy Morrow and A. T. Walden argued for a new trial on the grounds that involuntary manslaughter was the worst possible crime the Ingrams should have been convicted of on the basis of the evidence presented.

Dykes reviewed the fact that John Stratford, the deceased, was the assailant. That he threatened Mrs. Ingram's life, and that her two sons were guilty of no crime except that of coming to their mother's defense. New York, N.Y.

"The jury just went hog wild," he said. "Since the state used three sheriffs and two state troopers, the jury just figured Rosa Lee Ingram must be in the wrong." He said the Ingrams were confused and terrified by being arrested and placed in separate jails, and that they made statements without being told they didn't have to, and before they had benefit of counsel.

"They were strangers in a strange place," he said, "in jail and practically friendless. Whatever contradictory statements they may have made, make the admission of such statements all the more horrible in the administration of justice." Fri.

E. L. Forrester, the state solicitor, harangued the judge and the courtroom for an hour, charging the Ingrams with brutal and premeditated murder. 3-26-48

Judge Harper denied the request of this reporter to interview Mrs. Ingram and her two sons in the Sumter County jail next door to the courthouse. He said, in answer to a question, that members of the family and intimates were allowed to see Mrs. Ingram. Daily Worker 3-26-48

However, Mrs. Geneva Rushin, eldest Ingram daughter, told this reporter after the hearing that no member of the family had been allowed to see their mother since she and her two sons were moved to Americus about two weeks ago. They can only stand outside and call up to the jail window. N.Y.

Dirt-Pile Slaying Suspect Sought In Atlanta After Winder Robberies

The Constitution, Atlanta, Ga. Wed. 6-23-48

By GEORGE VANCE

The State-wide hunt for two armed desperadoes—one of whom is believed to be the Greene County prisoner accused of the ax-slaying of his guard—centered in the Atlanta area last night following an armed robbery and two burglaries near Winder.

Barrow County Sheriff Clay Camp said he believed the bandits headed toward Atlanta after taking $2,000 in merchandise from the Dixie Trading Post at Auburn; $125 in cash and an equal amount in cigarettes from a filling station near Winder; and forcing a man to give them a five-gallon can of gasoline for their automobile.

The Wright Lumber Company watchman, Arthur House, told police the Negroes — one of them wearing prison clothing—held him up about 2 a. m. yesterday and demanded gasoline. The two burglaries occurred about the same time, police reported.

Both Atlanta police and the State Patrol alerted their forces in the belief that the Negro dressed in prison garb was L. C. Brown, of Marietta and Forsyth, the Greene County fugitive accused of killing Prison Guard William Jarrett with an ax; crushing his body with a giant earth mover and burying it under a pile of dirt.

The description of the armed bandit fits that of Fugitive Brown, according to Lt. J. L. Dixon, of the GBI, whose office also is investigating the Barrow County cases.

The Constitution

Reconstructing the series of thefts, the Barrow sheriff said he believed the bandits first went to the Smith Filling Station on the Athens-Winder highway; came through Winder to the Lumber Company; and then went to the Trading Post at Auburn, eight miles from Winder.

Atlanta, Ga.

Meanwhile, posses using airplanes and automobiles were scouring the Greene County countryside for the prison truck in which Brown escaped. The fugitive kidnapped his estranged wife at gunpoint Monday afternoon following his getaway, Greene County Sheriff C. W. Wyatt said.

Wed. 6-23-48

Wyatt added that a .38 pistol and about $150 were missing from the body of Jarrett, who was dug up from freshly turned dirt shortly after the escape. Brown and Jarrett was last seen together, and a search began Monday when it was discovered both were missing.

NEGRO TO GO ON TRIAL IN AXE-SLAYING CASE

CRAWFORDSVILLE, GA.—(SNS) Hamp Ellington, a 22-year-old Negro youth, is scheduled to go on trial here Monday, May 24, before Judge C. J. Perryman, of the Toombs Circuit Court Superior Court, in connection with the 'axe-Slaying" of Thomas Hobbs, 50 year-old-white farmer on March 24.

The youth will be represented by Atty. Osgood Williams, Clawfordville lawyer, who was appointed by

A Grand Jury will be impaneled ,.tn geauastaiiCnes,RE.,i m

on the morning of the scheduled trial according to Solicitor General Cecil Davis, and the trial will follow either the same day or during the session of the court.

Ellington is in the custody of Sheriff R. M. Moore of Crawfordsville. He will remain in jail here until the May term of the court.

Ellington's arrest came after a a death blow had been aimed at his head by Thomas Hobbs. The youth in the ensuing struggle wrestled the axe away for the white farmer.

and reportedly struck him a fatal blow.

The grim struggle and slaying reportedly occurred on a lonely road near Sharon, after Hobbs had picked up Ellington and visited several places. Later the automobile became stuck in a ditch. Incensed and enraged at the youth's failure to remove a rock in the ditch, the aged farmer allegedly struck at him with an axe. Ellington reportedly wrestled the axe from the hands of Hobbs and struck him a single fatla blow.

Fearfully, Ellington drove several minutes before he abandoned the car when the transmission failed. He then proceedede to the sawmill where he worked.

The shouting enthusiasm and his office at Warrington, Ga., which is in Warren County, states that no formal charge has been lodged against Ellington, although he admits the slaying. His case will be handled during the meeting of the Grand Jury.

Sheriff Moore has refused newspapers' request for interviews with Ellington, who is being held in the County Jail, here.

Slain In 'Strange Fruit' Tryst

The Defender

Sat. 10-23-48

VALDOSTA, Ga. — Nineteen-year old Elizabeth Washington this week confessed to police that she had hacked to death with an axe her 65-year old white employer-lover, Morris Medove, after more than a year of clandestine 'strange fruit' romance.

Chicago

The girl broke down after an all night questioning by the police and told how she felled Medove, a photographer, as he worked in his dark room laboratory. Police report that the girl told of how she had been hired by Medove in April 1947 at his Southland Photo studio, of how Medove began to require her to remain at the laboratory with him after hours, of the intimacy of their association when other employees had gone.

On Sunday evening, as was her custom, she returned to the studio to meet Medove. The couple became involved in a violent quarrel and the girl charges Medove struck her and returned to the dark room laboratory.

Incensed over the wrongs she felt had been done her, the girl seized an axe and followed him. As Medove stood with his back toward her, the girl cleft his skull with the blade of the axe, then struck him again and again as he lay dying on the floor in the dark.

The girl fled to her home, but was picked up by the police along with all the other employees of the studio for questioning. Under police questioning she broke down and confessed to the slaying.

19-Year-Old Girl Confesses Valdosta-Studio Ax Slaying

The Constitution

Thurs. 10-14-48

By JOE BRADWELL

Constitution State News Service

VALDOSTA—A signed confession by a 19-year-old Negro girl ended a 82-hour search for the ax-slayer of Morris Medove, 65, whose hacked body was found Monday in his photographic darkroom, Valdosta Police Chief Wilbur Perkerson reported late yesterday.

Atlanta, Ga.

The girl, identified as Elizabeth Washington, related a story of her association with the slain man which dated back to April, 1947, shortly after she began to work at the Southland Photo Laboratory which was operated by Medove.

Chief Perkerson said the Negro girl described the attack on Medove in her statement. He said she told him she struck Medove once with the ax while he was standing, hitting him with the blade of the ax. The last blow was with the blunt end of the ax, the Chief recounted.

Thurs. 10-14-48

The policeman said that the girl described exactly the spot in which the death weapon was hidden.

Police said the girl was among the employees rounded up for questioning at the direction of Chief Perkerson.

All employees of the firm were asked to account for their movements Sunday. The chief assigned an officer to check each statement. All statements made by the employees tallied, the Chief explained, except that made by the Washington girl.

Perkerson said the girl told him she and gone to the studio Sunday afternoon to keep an appointment with Medove. In her statement, the girl said, "I completed the eighth grade in school. . . . In April of 1947, I got a job at the Southland Studio. . . . I washed and dried pictures and cut negatives. . . . I was making $12 a week. . . . Mr. Medove began asking me to stay after hours. . . . On Saturday, Oct. 9, I went up to the studio to get my money. . . . He asked me to come back Sunday afternoon about 1:30 or 2 o'clock. . . . When I got there, the front door wasn't locked so I went in. . . . Right after I got there we had an argument. . . .

"He hit me and I hit him back. . . . When I got loose from him, I picked up the ax that was sitting by the door. . . . I hit him with the ax in the head . . . he fell and I hit him twice more with the ax, then I pushed the ax under the ice box that was in the corner. . . . I left and went up Central Avenue . . . and went home."

The girl will be returned over for action by the Grand Jury in the November term of Superior Court.

Thurs. 10-14-48

Woman Slain; Six Are Held

CADWELL, Ga.—(AP)—Six Negroes are being held for questioning in the death of Mrs. Kinch Smith, 72, found beaten to death at her plantation, Sheriff Carlus Gay said Sunday.

Gay said the Negroes, four men and two women, were tenants on Mrs. Smith's large acreage. He declined to name them.

Detroit, Mich.

A coroner's jury was recessed without reaching a verdict. The sheriff and state troopers were continuing their investigation.

Tech Student Shot to Death

Special to The Constitution.

The Constitution

CARROLLTON — A youth listed as Buddy Stevens, 21, a Georgia Tech student, was shot and beaten to death last night in front of the West Georgia College by a Negro man who attacked the youth and a girl companion in a parked auto.

Carrollton police said the Negro approached the car in which Stevens and an 18-year-old girl companion were sitting and ordered the youth to get out. When Stevens stepped from the car, the girl related, the Negro fired twice, one bullet striking Stevens in the chest and the other in the arm. Then the Negro beat the helpless youth on the head with the gun.

Atlanta, Ga.

When the shooting occurred the girl leaped from the car and fled. Officers said she escaped uninjured.

State troopers from several stations rushed in to help Carrollton authorities with the investigation. Bloodhounds were rushed to the area from Fulton County. Angry townspeople also joined in groups to search the sections near the city limits.

The attack occurred near the grounds of the West Georgia College at the city limits of Carrollton.

13c 1948 Whites by Negroes (Georgia)

Youth Held In Defense Slaying Of White Farmer

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

CRAWFORDVILLE, Ga.— (SNS) —A death blow aimed at the head of a 22-year-old Negro youth Hamp Ellington, failed to find its mark and in the ensuing struggle Thomas Hobb, 50-year-old white farmer was struck a fatal blow, a "confession" said Wednesday. Thu. 4-1-48

The grim struggle and slaying reportedly occurred on a lonely road near Sharon, after Hobb had picked up Ellington and visited several places. Later the automobile became stuck in a ditch. Incensed and enraged at the youth's failure to remove a rock in the ditch, the aged farmer, Hobb allegedly struck at him with an axe. Ellington then reportedly wrestled the axe from the hands of Hobb and struck him a single fatal blow. The youth then put the farmer's body in the vehicle and drove for a short distance before putting it out. Thu 4-1-48

Fearfully, Ellington drove several minutes before he abandoned the car when the transmission failed. He then proceeded to the sawmill where he worked.

Ellington was arrested by Sheriff R. M. Moore, when a woman told of seeing him with Hobbs.

The youth is being held in the Crawfordville Jail. No formal charge has been lodged against Ellington, although he has admitted the slaying.

Officers said Ellington has a previous court record.

Sheriff Bares Confession Of Cadwell Slayer

Daily World

DUBLIN, Ga. — (SNS) — Solicitor General W. W. Larsen and Sheriff Carlus Gay Monday had alleged that 43-year-old Mrs. Nettie Elvine confessed to the slaying of Mrs. B. K. Smith, white, at her home at Cadwell, August 14. [illegible]

Larsen and Gay reported that the Negro woman signed a statement at the courthouse, disclosing that Mrs. Smith had asked her to work at the home the day of the slaying, and that in a quarrel, she choked her wealthy employer fatally.

Atlanta Ga

The report further alleged that the accused said that only she was involved in the killing, although the body was found and first reported to authorities by her grandson.

Sometime after the slaying, the whole Elvine family was held in jail following the arrest of Nettie Elvine. Later members of the family were released for lack of evidence.

Life Term Given Youth In Death Of Junk Dealer

Atlanta Daily World

BY C. LAMAR WEAVER

A life term verdict was returned against Hollis Daniels, alias "Jimmy Washington," Wednesday in the December 18 alleged slaying of A. M. Goldstein, 65-year-old Jewish junk dealer.

Only a handful of spectators—all Negroes—waited throughout the three hour deliberation of the Fulton Superior Court jury to hear the publication of the verdict.

Among them were close relatives of the defendant, including his aged mother and father, of Sparta, Georgia. Thurs-4-22-48

The 19-year-old defendant, a husky lad for his age, sat alone on the reserved bench for prisoners. Occasionally his attorney, Ellis McClelland, would stop and chat with him on the merits of the case.

Despite the fact that his life hung in the balance at the hands of the retired jury, Daniels talked and laughed heartily during the conversation with his stalwart counsellor. 4-22-48

ANGUISHED PARENTS

In the rear of the courtroom the aged parents sat with bowed heads imbued with deep meditation. Asked how many children they had, Mrs. Daniels said they had so many she had to count them to make sure. Her enumerations accounted for 18—eight boys, eight girls and two dead. Until Hollis got into the trouble for which he was being tried, the couple remarked that they never had the slightest bit of trouble with their "chilluns." They implied that Hollis came to Atlanta a few months before the dealer's death and got mixed up with the wrong associates.

PRAYED SILENTLY

When the jury filed into the courtroom with its verdict, both parents dropped their heads as if in silent prayer. The 87-year old father—his hair greyed and body bent with many years of toilsome farm labor—moved his lips in silent reverence as he lowered his head into his hands. Mrs. Daniels' anxiety as to the outcome of the case was seen in her pathetic nervousness of wiping away tears in her bewelled eyes.

Although the solicitor read the verdict which found young Hollis guilty of murder with recommendation of mercy, the aching hearts of the Daniels were not put at ease until it was explained that their son's life had been saved. The expressions on their relieved faces seem to say "Thank God, our prayers have been answered."

Together they slowly moved from the courtroom, the elderly farmer on his cane, his wife with her arms in his. Their destination will be their farm home in Sparta — away from the flourishing ills and evils of the city and back to the remote and peaceful surroundings of wholesome farm life.

THE DEFENDANT?

What about Hollis, their son? He will be able to reunite with them in seven years, providing he maintains a good behaviour record during his confinement. The Georgia law provides such in life term sentences.

Hollis was arrested along with 16-year old Harvey Johnson and both were indicted for the death of the junk dealer who was said to have been battered over the head in his 444 Decatur Street establishment. Detectives said he was robbed of $15. Johnson at his trial said Hollis struck the fatal blow, while Hollis pointed the finger of accusation at Johnson. They both were reportedly, employed by the dealer at the time of his death.

Johnson was meted the death penalty and sentenced to die on April 16. The execution is tentatively being withheld, following a motion for a new trial filed by his attorney.

Negro Shoots White Man, Freed In Georgia

Journal & Guide
Norfolk Va.

By Associated Negro Press

ATLANTA, Ga.— A Negro sentenced by a lower court to six to 10 years for shooting a white man found himself a free man last week when the Georgia Court of Appeals here reversed the decision. Sat 12-25-48

Joe Pinkston of Glascock county was vindicated of charges when the higher court decided that he shot Ray Reese, a Warren county farmer in self defense. The appelate court said he had a right to shoot "in defense of himself and his family." Sat 12-25-48

According to the court, Reese crossed the county line to Pinkston's home "seeking revenge" following an altercation between Reese's two sons and the Negro. Reese was quoted as saying he "would have been crazy" not to have carried a gun.

Indict 'Strange Fruit' Slayer

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois

VALDOSTA, Ga.—Elizabeth Washington, 18-year-old slayer of Photographer Morris Medove, white, with whom she was involved in a "strange fruit" romance, was scheduled to go on trial this week after having been indicted for murder. Sat 11-27-48

The girl who was an employee in the studio of the erstwhile Hollywood cameraman, killed him with an ax while he was wearing only shoes and shorts following a quarrel.

Indict 18-Year-Old Woman In Slaying Of Photographer

Daily World

VALDOSTA, Ga.—(SNS)—Eighteen-year-old Elizabeth Washington was indicted here Thursday on a murder charge in the axe-slaying of a 55-year-old white photographer, Morris Medove. Fri 11-19-48

According to Superior Court Clerk T. B. Converse, Miss Washington will go on trial in a special session of Judge George R. Lully's court. Atlanta Ga.

The slain photographer's body was found in his darkroom on Oct 11.

"I Didn't Do It." Accused Slayer Tells Mother

(13c) W

Daily World
Sun 10-24-48
Atlanta Ga

BY WILLIAM A. FOWLKES

VALDOSTA, Ga.-(SNS)- "I didn't do it, Mama!"

This is what 19-year-old Elizabeth Washington, accused of the October 10 slaying of a white photo laboratory operator, told her mother, Mrs. Carrie Washington, upon questioning at city jail before transfer to the Lowndes County jail to await action by the grand jury in November.

The mother, contacted at the Jackson Street home of her son, said that the accused young woman told her that city police took her to the laboratory where the body of Morris Medove was found and drew the murdered weapon—an axe on her, threatening and intimidating her into signing a confession she didn't dictate, that she had hacked the dead man fatally. Sun 10-24-48

Police Chief Wilbur Perkerson reported that the Washington girl had signed a statement that she went to the Southland Photo Laboratory to collect her $12 pay envelop and an argument ensued. The white man allegedly had been asking Miss Washington to stay after hours and to come back on Sunday. The alleged confession said the suspect claimed the white man struck her before she attacked him with an axe. Sun 10-24-48

Questioned as to whether there had been any intimation of a sexual attack in the background of the case

Mrs. Washington said that her daughter talked only vaguely to her while appearing afraid that someone would overhear her conversation. There have been reports to Mrs. Washington that the dead man had a reputation of molesting women, the domestic worker said Saturday.

Attorney H. B. (Hell Bent) Edwards, known Valdosta lawyer who has served in the Georgia legislature and figured in political and civic affairs of this section for many years, has been employed to defend Miss Washington.

The mother said she did not know an Ingram case on her hands and revealed that both white and colored citizens felt that the circumstances involving the alleged killing at her daughter's hands made for a formidable defense.

13c 1948

Whites by Negroes (Illinois)

BIRD TO ACCUSE PAIR BY PHONE

(Des Moines Register)

13c W.N.

WALLA WALLA, WASH. (AP)—An unprecedented state prison arrangement to enable Jake Bird, condemned slayer, to level a direct long distance telephone accusation against two men in a Chicago, Ill., jail was announced by officers Thursday. 1-15-48

Harry Engstrom, acting chief of detectives in Evanston, Ill., disclosed that, following Wednesday night's "truth serum" test, permission was obtained to have the Negro talk successively to the two men held in the Chicago jail, accusing them of participation in the 1942 Galvin double slaying in Evanston. Thu.

Thinks Case Solved.

Engstrom said after the "truth serum" questioning that he was convinced the Galvin case had been solved. Mrs. Lillian Galvin, 42, and her maid, Edna Sibilski, were killed in a robbery that netted $28,000 worth of jewelry and three fur coats.

Bird has told officers he participated in or had knowledge that would clear up 44 slayings across the country. He has been linked definitely with 11 murders.

1-15-48

Acted As Lookout.

The two men held in Chicago were reported to be Lovell Botkins, 37, and his nephew, William M. Hockett, 23. Bird accused them and a third man, now in a Michigan prison, of being the men who entered the Galvin home while he acted as a lookout.

They have denied the accusation, and three days ago in Evanston, Police Chief Carl Ekman was quoted as saying "their alibis look good."

The Law and the Courts

The Courier-Journal Sat.

The startling story in The Courier-Journal of the murder of the veteran Louisville police officer, Andy Miller, lays bare a series of miscarriages of the law that probably has few parallels. The story reeks with law evasions. The first offense, as per the catalogue of crimes committed by the Negro, Arthur Manuel, was grand larceny, which was amended to a mere vagrancy charge. Our laws should be amended so that a defense lawyer cannot wheedle the courts and get a crime that carries a prison sentence reduced to a misdemeanor. At various times Manuel was charged with malicious shooting and wounding, malicious cutting and wounding, malicious stabbing and wounding and disorderly conduct, and in cases when he was convicted, he exercised influence sufficiently to be probated. The officials and the good people of Louisville ought to get behind a bill in the next legislature making it impossible for the courts to extend probation to anyone the second time. While Manuel has so far never yet gotten to the penitentiary, according to the story as published, he probably should be classed as a habitual criminal. 5-13-48

Bowling Green, Ky. Louisville. A. M. CAUSEY.

Slaying of Patrolman Ruled Not Justifiable

Courier-Journal

The May 8 slaying of Patrolman Andrew Miller, 55, was "not justifiable," a coroner's jury ruled yesterday. Arthur Manuel, 33, Negro, faces trial June 16 on a murder indictment in the shooting. Manuel's mother, Kate, testified her son shot Miller with the latter's own pistol at 439 Marshall. The officer had gone to the address on a trouble call.

Louisville, Ky.

Sat. 5-23-48

Demented Man Slays Officer

The Constitution 4-30-48

ADAIRSVILLE, Ky., April 29—(AP)—An insane Negro shot to death Chief of Police Rufus Barrow, 60, with the officer's own pistol Thursday, then for more than an hour stood off officers before he finally was overpowered.

The Negro, listed as Ed Burkes, 20, had been adjudged insane and was in custody of the officer, awaiting a bus to take him to an institution. The prisoner seized the officer's gun, felled him and fired shot after shot into his body.

Then the man, waving the gun menancingly, took up a position over the officer's body and defied police and sheriff's deputies to approach him. Atlanta, Ga.

The officers refrained immediately from attempting to seize him lest he start shooting into the crowd of several hundred which quickly gathered. Fri. 4-30-48

After nearly an hour and a half, the officers kept the man's attention while another Negro, Capers Crumbaugh, 45, slipped up behind Burkes, flattened him and disarmed him. Fri. 4-30-48

Enroute To Asylum, Demented Prisoner Kills Police Chief

ADAIRVILLE, Ky. — (S N S) — Having been adjudged insane, 20-year old Ed Burkes was said to have shot and killed Chief of Police Rufus Barrow, while the latter had him in custody, awaiting transportation to the insane asylum.

Burkes reportedly grabbed the 60 year old officer's gun, knocked him down and fired several shots into his body. He was subdued approximately an hour afterwards when another Negro ,Capers Crumbaugh, 45, slipped up behind him and disarmed him.

Burke was said to have waved the dead officer's gun menacingly, defying other police and sheriff deputies to come near him as he took a stand over the Chief's body.

13c 1948

Whites By Negroes (Louisiana)

NEGRO IS CHARGED IN TERRY SLAYING

Times-Picayune

(The Associated Press)

Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 16.—Willie Elijah Washington, 30-year-old Negro today was charged with the killing July 3 of State Welfare Commissioner W. S. Terry, Jr.

The East Baton Rouge parish grand jury meanwhile continued a detailed consideration of evidence in the case. Mrs. Terry, only eye-witness of the shooting, was recalled for further testimony.

Fr-12-17-48

Terry was killed by a single bullet fired into his heart as he and his wife, returning from a shopping trip, surprised a Negro ransacking their house.

Washington was arrested November 23, in Lutcher in connection with a reported sale of stolen goods and sent to Baton Rouge for investigation in connection with the Terry killing as a result of questioning by Sheriff Hinckley Waguespack of Ascension parish.

Sheriff Bryan Clemmons of East Baton Rouge parish said he had obtained from Washington a "full confession" in the Terry case.

The murder charge was filed today by District Attorney Fred S. LeBlanc. It has no effect on grand jury consideration of the case, but enables authorities legally to continue to hold Washington.

Fr-12-17-48

Louisiana Negro Charged In Murder

Montgomery Advertiser

BATON ROUGE, LA., Dec. 16.—(AP)—Willie Elijah Washington, 30-year-old Negro, was formally charged today with the murder of State Welfare Commissioner W. S. Terry, Jr., on July 3.

Montgomery Adv.

Terry was shot by a prowler as he and Mrs. Terry returned home from a shopping trip. Mrs. Terry identified the slayer as a Negro and two neighbors told investigating officers that they saw a Negro fleeing from the residence about the time of the shooting.

Fr-12-17-48

Meanwhile, the East Baton Rouge grand jury is still considering evidence in the case. Sheriff Bryan Clemmons said Tuesday night that Washington had made a full confession of the crime.

13c 1948 Whites By Negroes (Maryland)

Say Cops Framed Negro in Slaying

By Mel Fiske

FREETOWN, Md., Nov. 28. — Thomas Edwards, 23-year-old Army veteran, is in the Baltimore city jail charged with murdering two white youths. Police say the Negro youth "confessed." But Edwards declares: "They told me what to say."

— Daily Worker N.Y.N.Y.

Mon. 11-29-48

His parents and three brothers and sister, who at first accepted the "confession," now say vehemently: "It's a frame-up."

Witnesses who swear seeing Edwards about the time he is supposed to have committed the murders have been found by the family and the Daily Worker, which conducted an independent investigation.

POLICE TERRORISM

Edwards was arrested seven weeks after the bodies of Mary Kline and Jack Mahlan, both of nearby Glen Burnie, Md., were found in an isolated strip of woodland 28 miles from here. His arrest followed an unparalleled campaign of police terrorism conducted against every Negro family in the area.

The 18-year-old stenographer and 25-year-old mail clerk didn't return from their date on the night of Sept. 17. Mahlan's car was found parked on a roadside about half a mile from Freetown the next morning. Bullets had shattered the windows on either side of the car and the interior was bloodstained.

The bodies were found three days later after the largest search in state history was organized by police. A nightmare of terrorism then closed in on every Negro family in Freetown.

Police entered and searched almost every Negro home and farm outbuilding. They reached into almost every family to drag men, and even 15- and 16-year-old boys, to jail for "questioning."

QUIZ CHILDREN

Children were stopped on their way to and from school along the back county roads and asked about their fathers.

Police made dozens of trips to the only recreational center in the area, Kindner's bar and poolroom, to haul men and boys down to the county jail. The count of Negro men arrested during the past two months stands at close to 100.

The four Edwards' boys were among those arrested when the police dragnet of the Negro community began. They were all released after state, county and Baltimore city police grilled them in turn.

When Thomas Edwards was rearrested seven weeks later, Mrs. Birdie Jackson, owner of the tiny general store in Freetown said: "The cops were out to get a Negro for this, and they got one."

Edwards was arrested for the second time on Nov. 8. Four days later Gov. William Lane announced that the Negro sugar refinery worker had "confessed."

His father, James R. Edwards, had been called in by Anne Arundel County Police Chief John H. Souers to witness the signing of the "confession." It was the first time since his arrest that the youth had been permitted to see any member of his family, James Edwards, a compact, muscular well-digger said.

COPS SLUG HIM

"I don't know what went on all that time they had him in jail, but when I saw him he told me one of the cops had hit him," Edwards said bitterly.

weapon. They had been searching the Edwards home on the average of once a week for seven weeks before that.

Edwards' white and Negro friends at the American Sugar Refining Co. in South Baltimore have taken up a collection to aid in the youths' defense. They know him as a hard-worker, always lending a helping hand.

13c

Congregations of three churches around Freetown have also collected money for Edward's defense expenses.

They know the Edwards family as regular churchgoers, and respected law-abiding citizens. Tom, who doesn't drink or smoke and never missed a day's work until his arrest, attended church with the family.

In the Army, Edwards was a truck driver in a company that brought supplies up to the front along the Red Ball highway. Before the war he had worked in the Curtis Bay Ordnance Depot, an Army supply dump in South Baltimore.

His sister, Mary Frances, attends Morgan College, and his three brothers, James, 28, Nathaniel, 26, and Samuel, 20, help their father in his well-digging business and established ice route.

A white Glen Burnie taxi-driver who had worked with Tom Nathaniel said he didn't believe Edwards "would hurt a fly, much less kill a couple of people."

He added, "it looks like to me the police are covering up for somebody."

ous friends, Tom Edwards didn't display any signs of nervousness that could be expected in a man who is said to have murdered two people. One friend who accompanied Edwards home from the dance said he joked with him most of the way.

A revolver of Czechoslovakian make which police say Edwards admitted owning is claimed to be the murder weapon. And the FBI reported that the bullets removed from the bodies of the slain couple were of a foreign make.

While on the surface the make of the gun and bullets appear to tally, the Edwards boys say that the revolver had been rebored so that .38 caliber American-made shells could be used. The gun was of .37 caliber when Tom Edwards purchased it as a souvenir at Camp Kilmer, N. J., where he was discharged in 1946 when he returned from Germany.

American-made cartridges, purchased at a Baltimore sporting good store, were the only bullets used in the revolver, the Edwards boys say.

Asked how they happened to find the revolver, police said they had placed Tom Edwards in a cell equipped with a dictaphone. A former penitentiary inmate, now on friendly terms with police, was placed in the next cell. During a conversation that continued for most of two days, the police claim Edwards said: "They're trying to find a gun, but they'll never find it because I hid it in my mother's living room, behind a lot of canned goods in a closet near the piano."

Police then reported that they hopped into their scout cars, sped to the Edwards farm and found the

print such confessions until they are introduced in a trial, this is the first time the gist of the document appears in print.

James Edwards related: "He told them he left the house about 10:30 that night and walked down to the road, a car came straight at him and tried to run him down.

"He said he ran a little way up the hill to see where the car was going and he saw it turn in a half mile away. He walked to the car, he said, and got into an argument with the driver.

"The driver reached for his glove compartment, he said, so he pulled his gun out and shot him. The girl tried to run out of the car, so he shot her. Then he said he drove down to where they found the bodies (28 miles away), and drove the car back and parked it near the duck pond. Then he got out and walked to the dance. He said he got there about 12 o'clock."

The names of three people who swore to the Daily Worker that they had seen and spoken with Tom Edwards between 11:20 and 11:40 that night have been given to the family.

Neighbors have come forward with additional information, which is being retained by the family for use at the trial expected to be set shortly.

Raynor's dance hall, about two miles from the Edwards farmhouse, can be reached by a forest trail. Tom Edwards habitually used the trail, and it took him between 25 and 35 minues to get to the hall.

The belief that he was making his way through the forest toward the hall while the murders were said to be committed is strong in the minds of his family. With the discovery of three witnesses who saw him three-quarters of a mile from the dance hall, the belief is strengthened.

Seen at the dance hall by numer-

Robbery His Motive

Suspect Admits Glen Burnie Murders, Lane Announces

Wash. Post

13c

By Richard Morris

Post R

Annapolis, Md., Nov. 11.—Governor Lane announced through a spokesman tonight that Thomas Alexander Edwards, 23-year-old stevedore, has confessed he shot and killed Miss Mary C. Kline, 18, and her escort, John H. Mahlan of Glen Burnie.

Wash. D.C.

An authoritative source said Edwards admitted robbery was his motive in killing the young couple while they were out on a date September 17.

He signed a confession at 5:30 p. m. today at Baltimore City police headquarters in the presence of **Captain of Detectives Henry C. Kriss** and members of the city, Anne Arundel County and State police.

Edwards was taken to Baltimore today from the State police station at Waterloo, Md. He had been questioned throughout the day, and began "breaking" shortly after 5 p. m.

Fri 11-12-48

Governor Lane's announcement came from Louis O'Donnell, his special assistant. He said the Governor, who is vacationing in Sea Island, Ga., had been informed of the "break" in the case by Police Commissioner Hamilton R. **Atkinson of Baltimore, and Col** Beverly Ober, superintendent of State police.

13c

Edwards told this story in his confession, according to information received by The Washington Post:

Fri 11-12-48

He came upon Mahlan and Miss Kline in a parked car in a "lover's lane" near Glen Burnie the night of the slaying. He shot Mahlan through the window of the car as the 23-year-old postal clerk sat at the steering wheel.

Edwards noticed the man slumped over the wheel. He said the girl screamed and jumped out of the car. Edwards said he grabbed her, forced her back into the car and struck her over the head with the butt of a revolver.

Gives Girl Coup de Grace

Edwards said he thought the blow had killed the girl.

He recalled that he then drove the car with the two victims to a spot known as "the Sand Pit," presumably the isolated beanpatch about 6 miles from Annapolis, where the couple was found three days later.

Edwards said he stopped the car in a field, kicked Mahlan's body out of the car and then kicked the girl out.

Miss Kline was heard to moan when she struck the ground and rolled over, Edwards recounted. He thereupin placed the revolver at her head and fired.

Edwards acknowledged that he then drove Mahlan's car to the spot some 12 miles nearer Glen Burnie, in the vicinity of Lipin's Corner and hard by the village of Freetown, where Edwards is said to have lived. There he left the car and arrived home "at about 1 a. m." The car was found punctured with two bullet holes the next day.

Prisoner "Arrogant, Smart"

The confessed murderer was described as "arogant and hard-boiled, a fast talker, but a very shrewd and smart fellow, one of the toughest to crack" that State and city police have encountered.

He has persistently maintained since his arrest Tuesday that "anyone could have fired the pistol." He said he had three or four brothers and several cousins, any of whom may have been responsible, he claimed.

Edwards had been arrested once in the investigation three weeks

Associated Press **WIREPHOTO**

THOMAS A. EDWARDS

Leaving Waterloo station

ago. Police had heard he owned a foreign-make pistol, slightly smaller than .38-caliber and the size which was believed to conform with the murder weapon.

Negro Janitor Held In Death Of Young Girl

The Record
Columbia, S.C.

BALTIMORE, July 9—(AP)—A Negro janitor and odd-jobs man was held today on charges that he stabbed 11-year-old Marsha Brill to death while she was riding her bicycle along a wooded road near her northwest Baltimore home. Fri.

The man, Eugene H. James, 31, also was charged with assaulting and robbing a 38-year-old housewife three weeks ago.

James, who worked in a Pimlico apartment house and cut lawns and did other odd jobs in the neighborhood, was taken into custody about 12 hours after a man jumped in front of Marsha's bicycle as she was riding with two playmates Thursday. 7-9-48

Marsha fled into the woods with the man in pursuit. When she came out a minute or two later, she was bleeding from a deep gash in her lowest chest. The Record

Marsha, a bright-eyed sixth grader, died in the ambulance which was taking her to the hospital. Columbia, S.C.

James had been under constant questioning. Yesterday afternoon, police took him to the scene. Fri.

Later, Police Commissioner Hamilton R. Atkinson announced a rusty knife had bee found buried and covered with rocks in a thicket about six blocks from the stabbing scene.

He sai da police detail which had been searching for a weapon since the killing unearthed it. 7-9-48

Ex-Convict Confesses Bardwell Girl Slaying

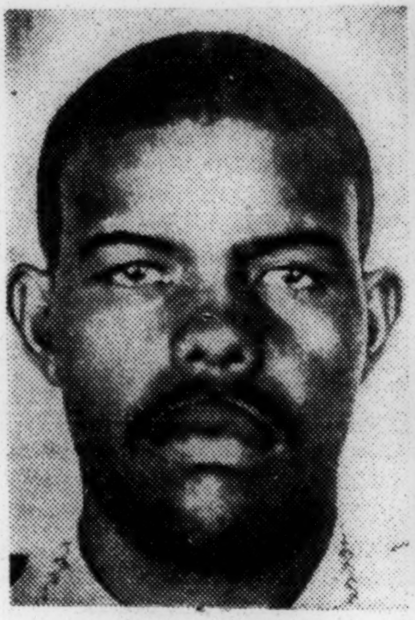
The Post
Washington, D.C.

Janitor With Sex Crime Record Also Admits Killing Baltimore Child

Sat. 7-10-48

The last pieces of a jig-saw puzzle of murder in two cities fell into place yesterday when a Baltimore janitor admitted the slaying here on June 27 of 11-year-old Carol Bardwell.

Earlier, the janitor, Eugene H.



EUGENE H. JAMES
Describes attack

CAROL BARDWELL
Knifed to death

MARSHA BRILL
Died like Carol

James, 31, who has a criminal sex record, had been charged by Baltimore police with the murder of Marsha Brill, also 11, in Baltimore Tuesday.

Washington detectives questioned James in Baltimore for four hours Thursday night and Friday morning before he finally admitted he had killed the Bardwell girl with a butcher knife in a wooded section of Rock Creek Park.

No Show of Emotion

When he did break, he poured forth all the details of the grim slaying with no show of emotion.

He said he had come upon Carol Bardwell suddenly in the park and that he was seized with an impulse to kill. He said he slashed her throat twice with the knife, once on each side. The Post

Announcement that James had confessed the Bardwell murder was made here yesterday in a joint statement by Maj. Robert J. Barrett, superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, and Capt. Mark Raspberry, head of the park police.

Washington detectives began questioning James about the murder of the Bardwell girl at 9 p. m. Thursday and by 1 a. m. had obtained from him an admission that he was the girl's killer.

The janitor narrated in detail his actions on Sunday, June 27, the day of Carol's murder.

He said he had attended a 6 a. m. mass at St. Ambrose Church in Baltimore. After breakfasting on a cup of coffee, he said he went to the Pennsylvania Railroad freight yards and hopped into a gondola car.

"I just had an impulse to take a little trip," police quoted him.

James said that after arriving in the freight yards here he did some sightseeing. He visited the Navy Yard, then came downtown and viewed the Justice Department Building and the White House.

Wanted to See "Gorillas"

Washington, D.C.

According to police, the janitor then decided he "wanted to see the gorillas" at the Zoo. Actually there are no gorillas at the Zoo here. James said he asked several passersby near the White House if there were gorillas at the Zoo. Nobody seemed to know, so he obtained direction on how to reach the Zoo and went there. Sat.

James told detectives he watched the animals at the Zoo for a time and then wandered off to a wooded section of the park where he was attracted by swans floating on a pond.

He said he sat and watched the swans in rapt attention for about two hours. 7-10-48

Killing Of 2 Girls Believed Solved By Arrest Of Janitor

New York Age
7-17-48

BALTIMORE, Md.—The killing of two little girls, one in Washington and the other here, was solved Friday, police said, with the arrest of Eugene H. James, 31-year-old D. C. janitor, who, they said, confessed that he stabbed the girls with a 10-inch blackhandled butcher knife.

New York, N.Y.

The victims were Carold Bardwell, 11, daughter of a Federal employe in D. C. and Marsha Brill, 11, daughter of a Baltimore grocer.

Police said that James shuttled between the two cities by freight train. In each case, he killed the children as they rodt their bicycles in wooded areas.

The Baltimore grand jury immediately indicted James for the Brill murder and also on charges of raping and robbing a Baltimore housewife last month. The two murders were executed nine days apart.

Jail Baltimore Negro In New Terror Drive

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Thu. 7-15-48

BALTIMORE, July 14. — The arrest of a 31-year-old Negro janitor in connection with two murders and an attempted rape — despite evidence he was nowhere near the scenes of the crimes — is viewed here as a move by the police to terrorize the Negro people.

The arrested man, Eugene James, was seized last week after a three-day hunt in which hundreds of Negro men were stopped on the street and many hauled to police stations. James is charged with the knife slayings of Marsha Brill, 11, daughter of a Jewish grocer and a Washington girl, Carol Bardwell, of the same age, as well as the attempted rape of a Baltimore woman, 38.

But neighbors have sworn that they saw James on his mother's porch when he was supposed to be in Washington. A signed "confession" which Washington police claim is in their possession was picked to pieces by local papers and even some capital detectives. The "confession" had James hopping a freight into Washington from Baltimore at a time when, investigation disclosed, no freights were running. Other discrepancies make the confession a most doubtful document.

IDENTIFIED ANOTHER

In Baltimore, two young companions fo Marsha Brill identified an entirely different suspect when seven men were placed before them at a police lineup, police admitted.

The rape charge was hung on James by the slender "evidence" that the woman recalled that the attacker wore a rosary. James, a Catholic, wears a rosary.

In court yesterday, counsel for James pleaded not guilty, by reason of insanity. An attorney pointed out that the plea does not imply any guilt on James' part, merely establishing a way out for the man who suffered a brain concussion 12 years ago. He was unable to receive medical treatment then because his family lacked money.

The accused man's mother, Mrs. Bessie James, meanwhile, charged bitterly. "They won't let me see him. The police were sent out to get a colored man, and they got him."

Slain Child's Friend Points Out James

Wash Post

Janitor Sits Glumly During Identification In Baltimore Court

Tue. 9-21-48

By Charles E. Davis, Jr.
Post Reporter

Wash. D.C.

Baltimore, Md., Sept. 20.—His face grown shaggy with a beard, Eugene H. James sat glumly in Baltimore Criminal Court today as a child pointed him out as the slayer of 11-year-old Marsha Brill.

The 31-year-old janitor who is also charged with the June 27 murder of Carol Bardwell, 11, in Rock Creek Park in Washington showed absolutely no emotion in this first day of his trial.

James

He seemed hardly to be listening as the prosecution paraded 29 witnesses to the stand, most of them police officers whose testimony, the prosecution hopes, will make admissible a confession made by James to Baltimore police.

Among the first witnesses to testify was Barbara Sapperstein, 11, a playmate of Marsha Brill. She described how "a colored man with a knife" jumped from the bushes in the Baltimore suburbs July 6 and chased Marsha.

The attacker had a "tired" look, the child said. She was asked if she saw the man anywhere in the courtroom.

"That man," and she pointed to James sitting on a front bench, "looks something like him—although the man didn't have a beard."

Tues 9-21-48

The prisoner apparently has not shaved since his arrest more than two months ago.

Brother Supports Story

Charles H. Houston, prominent Washington attorney who is aiding in the defense, injected the Carol Bardwell case into the testimony, but only briefly and not by name.

While questioning Lieut. George G. Bryan of the Baltimore police homicide squad, Houston inquired if James had been questioned about a crime in Washington.

"He told us all about it," said Bryan.

The detective added that he knew Washington detectives had visited Baltimore and questioned James but that he had not met them personally.

After Barbara Sapperstein had retired from the stand, her 8-year-old brother, Alan, who was riding bicycles with the two girls in Baltimore's Pimlico section, was questioned and told substantially the same story that his sister had told.

The prosecution also introduced as a witness Mrs. Mae Arbogast, a Baltimore housewife and mother of six children.

Mrs. Arbogast said on the day of July 6 she was sitting on the front porch of her home on Winter ave. combing her hair.

She said she observed a man walk slowly by her house. He was carrying a long-bladed butcher knife, she testified, and at the moment was using it to whittle a stick.

Tue 9-21-48

She said he was walking north (in the direction of the murder scene) and was wearing blue dungarees.

"He looked like Joe Louis," she said. She, too, pointed out James in the courtroom.

Houston and James' Baltimore attorney, William H. Murphy, attempted to shake witnesses in their identification of the knife and blue dungarees.

Wash., D.C.

However, one witness, Mrs. Minnie Charson, positively identified the dungarees. How did she know them? She had given them to James, she said.

Mrs. Charson said she first saw James on June 25 when he passed by her house. She said she asked him if he wanted work and hired him to paint her front porch and some furniture.

The State also called Dr. Howard J. Maldies, chief medical examiner of Baltimore, who described the wound that caused Marsha Brill's death, and Dr. Henry C. Freimuth, city toxicologist, who testified he had examined a shirt worn by James and found on it a human bloodstain.

Dr. Marvin M. Graham, Baltimore dentist, related how he had stopped on Glen ave., where the child was stabbed, placed her in his car and rushed her to the nearest doctor's office.

The doctor was absent from his office so an ambulance was called and she was taken to a hospital where she died.

Tues 9-21-48

Alan H. Murrell and Anselm Sodaro, assistants to the State's Attorney of Baltimore, who are prosecuting the case, are expected to call Capt. Oscar Lusby, head of Baltimore's Northern District police, tomorrow as a witness. Through his testimony they hope to get James' statement admitted as evidence.

At the request of the defense, the case is being heard without a jury before Judge Herman M. Moser.

Grand Jury To Consider Murder Case On Tuesday; Edwards In Baltimore

Evening Capital
Thur 11-11-48
Annapolis, Md.

Police Committee Declares It Is Convinced Beyond Reasonable Doubt That Case Is Solved — Lie Detector Test Made

The case of Thomas Alexander Edwards, 23-year-old Negro, of Freetown, charged with having murdered John H. Mahlan, 25, and Miss Mary C. Kline, 18, of Glen Burnie, on Sept. 17, will be presented to the Anne Arundel county grand jury on Tuesday.

State's Attorney James C. Morton, Jr., of Anne Arundel county, said that pending the presentation of the case to the jury, Edwards would be held without bail, in the Baltimore City jail.

Warrants charging Edwards with the slayings were sworn out before Trial Magistrate David Dunker, at Ferndale, yesterday afternoon.

BROTHERS NOT CHARGED

"The FBI has made a positive identification of the gun used in the killings," said Chief John H. Souers, Jr., of the County Police Department. "Edwards has admitted his ownership of the gun."

No charges were filed against Edwards' three brothers, who also were questioned for a time at the State Police Barracks, at Waterloo. State's Attorney Morton said they were ordered released as State's witnesses.

Thur 11-11-48

It is known that county officials plan to bring the case to trial as soon as possible, in event the grand jury returns an indictment.

Issue Statement

Chief Souers, after the warrants had been issued, made a statement on behalf of the special committee made up of detectives and officers of the state, Baltimore City and county police force. Besides Souers, the statement was signed by Detective Lieut. George G. Bryan, Baltimore Police Department; Lieut. G. E. Davidson, State Police; Detective Lieut. Frank T. Schmidt, Baltimore Police Department; Detective Sgt. John J. Cassidy, State Police; Detective Sgt. [illegible] Mahrer, Baltimore Police Department, and Detective Sgt. G. E. Newcomer, State Police.

It gave Edwards' address as Marley, but pointed out that he was "unmarried and lived in the area of Freetown, where the abandoned car owned by John Mahlan was found," and continued:

Police View

"Chief Souers stated that he and the members of the special detective committee were convinced beyond a reasonable shadow of a doubt that the murder was committed by Thomas Edwards. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has made a positive identification of the gun used in the killing. The gun is in the possession of the police authorities and Edwards has admitted his ownership of the gun, stating that he purchased it shortly after he returned from overseas in 1946.

"The authorities have other information which clearly indicates that Edwards is directly responsible for the atrocity but it would be inappropriate to make public any further information or data in the hands of the authorities at this particular time."

Morton's Statement

State's Attorney Morton also issued a statement declaring that as a result of the issuance of the warrants, the matter would be presented to the county grand jury on Tuesday.

He said the grand jury was in recess but was scheduled to return on Tuesday at which time he would seek an indictment.

Thur 11-11-48

Mr. Mahlan and Miss Kline disappeared on Sept. 17, after they had left Miss Kline's home in Glen Burnie in Mr. Mahlan's automobile. The Mahlan car, bullet pierced and blood spattered, was found the next morning in a bean patch off the old Annapolis Boulevard, near Lipin's corner. The bodies were discovered three days later, while an intensive search in the Glen Burnie and Marley Creek area was under way, by a county road worker in a clearing off the Chesterfield road, near the Defense Highway.

Picked Up Monday

Edwards was picked up by the special committee of detectives set up by Gov. William Preston Lane, Jr. He had been questioned once before during the manhunt that followed the murders, but was released. He was taken into custody again on Monday at his job in a South Baltimore sugar refinery. Then he was placed in a cell and was prodded into conversation by a former prisoner, working for the police. Their conversation was recorded on a dictaphone.

After the recorded conversation had been reviewed, the members of the special squad searched Edward's home and found a .380-caliber Czechoslovakian pistol. It was taken to the FBI laboratories in Washington.

Nicks On Bullets

Police said the recorded conversation revealed the location of the gun as being hidden behind canned goods in the cupboard at Freetown. The officers said they found it as indicated.

Bullets taken from the heads of Mr. Mahlan and Miss Kline were .380 caliber and had unusual nicks on them. The FBI's microscope sleuths reasoned the weapon had a mechanical defect which put a scratch on the bullets as the cartridges were transferred from the magazine into the chamber.

The pistol in the Edward's home was found in a kitchen cupboard. In the attic, at the edge of a trap door, the officers found a cartridge box with six of the off-size bullets the gun uses.

The investigators picked up Edwards' three brothers, one at his home in Baltimore and the other two in Freetown. There were conflicting stories about one of them borrowing the gun.

Men Questioned

There was a report that the gun had been tampered with, a file apparently having been used on the barrel in an effort to erase the rifling.

The four brothers were questioned at the Waterloo State Police Barracks. After the questioning, which continued through yesterday morning, the officers decided to file the murder charges against Thomas Edwards.

While Edwards was being held at Waterloo it was learned he was given a lie detector test Tuesday by Detective Sgt. Freeman Ramer, who later expressed the view that the police had the right man. It was believed to be the first such test in a major Maryland criminal case.

The accused man was in the Quartermaster Corps in the Army and was discharged in 1946 after three years' service in Europe.

Three pairs of his shoes were picked up for checking by the FBI laboratory to see if any of them corresponds with a bloody clay print found in the back seat of the Mahlan automobile. A coat and three pair of trousers were turned over to the State Medical Examiner's laboratory in Baltimore for chemical examination.

$5,000 In Rewards

Rewards totaling $5,000 have been offered for the arrest of the killer or killers of the murdered couple.

Dozens of persons were questioned in the long investigation that started after the bodies were found. Police checked the slimmest clues.

NEGRO HELD IN RACE ARGUMENT SLAYING

(The Associated Press)

Benton Harbor, Mich., Aug. 1.—Police today claimed a signed admission from a young Negro collegian that he killed a white man because "he made some nasty remarks about colored people."

The victim, Edward Stowe, 29, was shot through the head in a crowded city bus.

Duain C. Witherspoon, 20, was taken into custody a few hours later.

Police Capt. Verne Story said Witherspoon signed a statement detailing the slaying. The officer said he would be arraigned on a murder charge, probably Monday.

13c

STUDENT KILLS WHITE ITINERANT FARMER FOR SLURS AGAINST NEGRO RACE

Deadline Release

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. (ANP)--Death stalked a crowded bus her last Saturday because a white itinerant farm worker made insluting remarks against the Negro race.

13c W by Negroes

Police say that a colored student, Duain C. Witherspoon, 20, of Benton Harbor junior college, has admitted that he killed Edward Stowe on the bus. According to Capt. Vern Story, Witherspoon had signed a statement givig detals of the shooting, which is reported as follows:

Release 8-5-48

Witherspoon boarded a bus driven by Arthur Wulff. As he got on the crowded bus, he evidently bumped into Stowe, who was already a passenger. An argument followed, then the student pulled out a nickel-plated revolver and shot the farm worker.

After firing his revolver, Witherspoon ran from the scene, but dropped some medicine bottles he was carrying, as he ran. Police reportedly traced these bottles to his home and took him into custody.

The dead man is the father of a nine-week-old girl.

Negro Student Held For Slaying On Bus

The News

July 31-48

BENTON HARBOR, Mich., July 31—(AP)—A young Negro college student was arrested early today in the fatal shooting of a white man aboard a crowded city bus.

The victim, 29-year-old Edward Stowe, died in Mercy Hospital several hours after he was [illegible] the [illegible] Stowe, father of a nine-week-old girl, was an itinerant farm worker.

Berrien County Undersheriff Henry Griese identified the man held as Duain C. Witherspoon, 20, who said he was a student at Benton Harbor Junior College.

Police Capt. Verne Story quoted Witherspoon as saying Stowe provoked the shooting because "he made some nasty remarks about colored people."

13c

13c 1948

Whites by Negroes (Mississippi)

Negro Admits Slaying For Money For Movies

The Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

JACKSON, MISS., March 9.—(AP)—A 17-year-old Negro signed a statement Tuesday that he killed a white man for money to buy hot dogs and go to the movies. Wed. 3-10-48

Chief of Police J. D. Holden said the Negro, Arthur Moore, was charged with the murder of J. L. Dean, insurance collector who was beaten to death with a hammer last Jan. 27. 3-10-48

The Negro also admitted in his statement, Holden said, the recent beatings and robbery of four other persons to get money to spend "foolishly to buy a lot to eat," go to the movies and play the juke boxes. Wed. 3-10-48

NEGRO FORTUNE DIGGER ADMITS WEIRD KILLING

The Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.

John T. Whirl Had Dug For Riches On Turner Place

Sun. 6-27-48

Special to The Commercial Appeal

LOUISVILLE, Miss., June 26. — John T. Whirl, 40-year-old negro fortune hunter, has confessed the mysterious slaying of Sid J. Turner of Coila community, James P. Shelton, special investigator, revealed Saturday. Commercial Appeal

Investigator Shelton, who solved the Catherine Rossi slaying a few months ago, said that Whirl admitted killing the bachelor planter at his home on July 5, 1947 and robbing him of $40.

"Whirl said that he had worked on Mr. Turner's plantation and that he had dug a lot on the place hunting for a fortune he thought Mr. Turner had buried," Mr. Shelton said. Memphis, Tenn.

"He said he found the elderly planter alone on July 5 and hit him over the head with a poll driving mallet. After robbing him, he then chopped off his head with an ax. June 6-27-48

"Charges of murder have been placed against Whirl and he is in jail at Greenwood," Mr. Shelton said.

Mr. Shelton began work on the case two weeks ago after other officers had given up on the case. He said he had the full co-operation of Sheriff B. J. Johnson of Greenwood, Dist. Atty. Henry L. Rodgers; Deputies J. A. Allen and L. M. McDougal of Carroll County; Sheriff Dewitt Tyler and Deputy Lawrence King of Montgomery County.

Appeal Filed in Slaying of Jailer

The Afro-American

JACKSON, Miss. — The NAACP last week engaged Dixon Pyles, attorney here to handle the case of Marvin Murry, who was lodged in the jail here for safekeeping after his conviction and sentence to death for the murder of a Wiggins (Miss.) jailer.

The jailer, it was reported, died of a fracutre received in a fall which occurred supposedly when he came into Murry's cell and began to beat him. The youth, who was being held on a theft charge, jumped up from his sleep, knocking the jailer down, it was testified.

Baltimore, Md.

New Issue Raised

In appealing the conviction and sentence to the State Supreme Court, English Lindsey of Gulfport, court-appointed attorney, charged that the insistence of segregation in the public courtroom constitutes denial of a real public trial under the U.S. and State Constitutions. Sat.

A far as could be learned from informed legal circles here, it is the first time the piont has been raised in any case in the State. Friday, Jan. 30, was set as the date of execution. 1-24-48

Doomed Miss. Vet Mentally Ill, Wife Says

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Thu. 1-29-48

JACKSON, Miss. — (ANP) — Jessie Lee Dickerson, young World War II veteran sentenced to die for the murder of a white taxi driver in Columbus early last spring, is suffering from a mental illness, his wife, Mrs. Cora Dickerson, said here last week.

Revealing the unmistakable signs of the nervous strain under which she has lived since her husband was convicted, Mrs. Dickerson came here in a last desperate effort to save her husband whose execution was set for Jan. 23. He was brought to the Hinds county jail here for safekeeping following his trial and sentence at Columbus.

According to reports, the young veteran shot the taxi driver to death while riding in his cab after he had engaged him to take him on a visit a few miles from town. There was no evidence of any motive for the crime. Thu.

QUESTION NOT RAISED

During the trial the young veteran was represented by an attorney appointed by the court whom his wife said did not raise the question of his possible mental illness resulting from his war services. She said further that her husband was tried and convicted before she knew what had happened to him. She was in St. Louis where he left her shortly after his discharge to visit relatives.

In Jackson, Mrs. Dickerson engaged Atty. Dixon Pyles who obtained a stay of execution on a writ of corun nobis which will make it possible to determine the mental condition of the veteran who, his wife said, instead of being executed, should be in a veterans' institution being treated for his illness. 1-29-48

Terrorize Family Of Man Who Aided Negro

The Defender

MERIDAN. MISS.—The wife and child of a physician who contributed to the defense of a Negro sentenced to die for slaying a white man during a fight, have been threatened with bodily harm.

Sat. 9-25-48

Dr. John C. Atwood said his wife had been warned to leave the state, and his child threatened with harm because of his role in the defense of Eddie "Buster" Patton.

Chicago, Ill.

LIE DETECTOR IS USED IN SEARCH FOR SLAYER

Investigation Pushed In Death Of Leland Woman

Commercial Appeal

Special to The Commercial Appeal

GREENVILLE, Miss., Nov. 25.—That a lie detector was used in the search for the slayer of Mrs. Idella Long Thompson, prominent Leland matron, was disclosed Thursday by A. E. Crawford, special detective of Jackson, who is working on the case. Fri-11-26-48

Memphis, Tenn.

Mr. Crawford would not reveal, however, the name of the party who voluntarily submitted to the lie detector test Wednesday, nor comment on its showing.

During the day, Mrs. John Dickins, 42, daughter of Mrs. Thompson, who found her mother beaten to death with hedge shears in the bathroom of her North Deer Creek Drive home at Leland, discussed the case with officers for about four hours. Following the lengthy conference attended by Mr. Crawford, Police Chief C. A. Hollingsworth and Ed Blue, identification officer of the Highway Patrol, Sheriff Hugh Foote of Washington County had no comment. He said only Mrs. Dickins and her husband were at the courthouse and discussed the case.

Detective Crawford explained that all members of the Thompson family, as well as others, have been in conference with authorities to give whatever information they may have. Fri-11-26-48

Mrs. Dickins said she entered her mother's home Wednesday of last week and found a negro beating the aged woman over the head with the shears. She said the negro turned on her, and she grappled the shears from his hand as he fled. Mrs. Dickins suffered two cuts on her head and injuries to her arm.

In connection with evidence in the case, which included strands of blood-clotted hair gripped in Mrs. Thompson's hand, authorities said it had been sent only Wednesday to the FBI in Washington for an analysis. They are awaiting a report of the findings. Earlier reports were the material had been sent to Washington a week ago, or shortly after the slaying.

Second Conviction Of Mississippi Negro To Go To Last Court

MERIDIAN, Miss., Aug. 12—(AP)—The case of Eddie (Buster) Patton, Mississippi Negro convicted twice for the same murder, appeared today to be headed back for the United States Supreme Court.

"It looks like we'll go to Washington again," commented L. J. Broadway, Patton's attorney, as he announced plans to file a motion for a new trial.

Patton was convicted again yesterday of the murder of James Meadows, a white night club operator. Circuit Judge Jesse Graham sentenced him to die in the electric chair on Oct. 1.

Patton's first conviction was reversed by the United State Supreme Court. It ruled that the murder indictment was faulty because Negroes had been excluded from the Grand Jury which returned it. The court also said that Patton's confession had been obtained through duress and violence.

The jury which convicted Patton yesterday was an all-white group, after the lone Negro accepted for jury duty was excused at his own request. The Grand Jury which indicted Patton the second time had three Negro members.

Court Upholds Trial Jim Crow

JACKSON, MISS.—

Racial segregation during a colored man's trial cannot be construed as a denial of the defendant's Constitutional rights.

The Defender

So ruled the Mississippi Supreme court last week in the case of Marvin Murray who has been sentenced to die Jan. 30 for the slaying of E. M. Reynolds, a jailor on Sept. 13, 1946. Murray's attorneys had appealed to the high court on grounds of court errors.

Chicago, Ill.

The court declared that it was a general practice for colored court spectators to be seated in the balcony and reaction about it could not be defined as a denial of the defendant's Constitutional rights.

Murray declared that Reynolds had kicked him and he then struck the jailor with his fists. Reynolds died of the inflicted wounds.

NEGRO TO DIE IN CHAIR FOR KILLING WHITE MAN

Commercial Appeal

Jury Convicts Patton In Murder Of James M. Meadows

Special to The Commercial Appeal

MERIDIAN, Miss., Aug. 11.—Judge Jesse H. Graham Wednesday sentenced Eddie (Buster) Patton, negro, to die in the electric chair here Oct. 1 for the murder of James M. Meadows, white night club operator. He was found guilty by a Circuit Court jury here Wednesday afternoon.

Patton, taking the stand, pleaded self defense.

This is the second time Patton has been doomed to die for slaying Meadows. The United States Supreme Court previously ordered a rehearing because no negroes were on the grand or petit juries. This time, three negroes served on the grand jury but none was qualified for the petit jury.

Patton testified that an argument over a $25 debt, which the negro claimed the white man owed him, preceded the fatal fight. Patton testified Meadows beat him with soft drink bottles and an iron poker. He also said a confession he made to police was given under force and duress.

Russell Wright, acting city attorney, the only other defense witness, testified aht Patton came to his office two weeks before the slaying, requesting Wright to collect the $25 debt. Wright added that he phoned Meadows and the latter told Wright he would do bodily harm if the negro went to the night club to collect the money.

Jailor Levi Cray testified that Patton showed no signs of being struck by any heavy object.

NEGRO FACES NEW TRIAL

All White Jury To Decide Fate Of Eddie Patton

Commercial Appeal

MERIDIAN, Miss., Aug. 10. —(AP)—An all white jury was selected Tuesday for the murder trial of Eddie (Buster) Patton, negro, charged with slaying a white man, after one negro had been excused by the state.

The negro member of the jury venire was excused after he told the court that it would prove "embarrassing" to him because District Attorney Jack Lobrano had prosecuted his brother for manslaughter a few years ago.

Wed. 8-11-48

Former City Detective Mike Nicholas, now connected with the State Patrol, testified that Patton's hat was found in the night club where the owner, J. M. Meadows, was found shot to death.

Memphis, Tenn.

Nichols also told the jury that he made casts of foot prints in the vicinity of the slaying and that after Patton's arrest his shoes were found to fit the casts.

The shoes were introduced as exhibits over the objection of defense counsel Lonnie Broadway.

It is Patton's second trial on the murder charge.

The Worker
New York, New York
132
Jun-12-12-48

The mother and sisters of Collis English, one of the defendants, reading a story about the Trenton Horner Case in the New Jersey edition of The Worker. The New Jersey edition pioneered the fight for the six men.

Six Negroes Face Chair In Jersey Murder Frameup

The Worker
New York, New York

By Abner W. Berry

Who killed 73-year-old William Horner on the morning of last Jan. 27 in his Trenton, N. J., furniture store?

Jun-12-12-48

Six Trenton Negroes are now in Trenton death cells charged with and convicted of the crime. Police, ignoring the testimony of eyewitnesses, pinned the crime on the six Negroes through alleged druggings, beatings, forced confessions and the refusal to allow introduction as evidence of records establishing the description of original suspects.

The arrests of the six Negroes resulted from activities of a "tommygun squad" organized by the Director of Public Safety which terrorized Negro citizens and the entire Negro community.

According to Mrs Horner, who was struck down by the unidentified men she accuses of her husband's battle-staying on that zero-cold morning, the killers were three teen-age youngsters. The young men struck Horner down with a pop bottle incased in a stocking. A fourth youth, Mrs. Horner said. drove the "black car" in which they escaped. Robbery was said to have been the motive, $1,000 having been missed from Horners pockets when police arrived.

Not one of the six Negroes, now in death cells awaiting Jersey Supreme Court decisions on appeals, is a teen-ager. Two—Collins English and Ralph Cooper—are 23; John MacKenzie and James H. Thorpe gave their ages as 24; McKinley Forrest is 35, and Horace Wilson, 37.

Jun-13-13-48

★

THE HORNER MURDER was one of a number of unsolved crimes committed in Trenton during the winter of 1947-48. (Even Mayor Donald J. Connolly was tried for plotting to violate the law governing beauty parlor licenses.) The citizens and the press were demanding a clean-up. There were rumors of collusion between organized crime and certain officials. The Horner case had to be cleared before Nov. 2—election day.

Early in February, Director of Public Safety Andrew J. Duch hit upon the novel plan of a tommygun squad of 15 men with orders to "shoot to kill," and charged with the task of bringing in "any person who doesn't have a pretty good excuse for being out." Now consider the methods of the Trenton police.

Jun-13-13-48

1. In rapid succession three suspects were paraded before Mrs. Horner who failed to identify all. A magazine writer has called these men by the fictitious names—Sellers, Ziani and Shuster, inferring that they were white. One of the killers was supposed to wear a mustache, according to Mrs. Horner's description, a fact which would have been more difficult to ascertain if the men she saw had been Negroes.

Cooper, Forrest and Thorpe have mustaches. Cooper is dark-complexioned, unmistakably a Negro, a fact which Mrs. Horner would have noted immediately upon being presented a white suspect. Thorpe recently had an arm amputated. It isn't likely that he could have been the driver of the car, and it is less likely that an absent arm would have gone unnoticed while Coper's complexion-matching mustache drew attention. McKinley Forrest, 35, is definitely beyond the age-limit set by Mrs. Horner and two other eyewitnesses who testified during the nine-week murder trial.

2. Collis English was stopped by the "tommygun squad" because he overran a traffic light, and was held only because the car he was driving a "black car"—a two-door Ford. (Mrs. Horner had said that the murder car was four-doored. Eyewitnesses declared the murder car to have been a blue Plymouth sedan.)

★

3. USE OF "POLICE METHODS" for four days (later testified by defendants to have been beatings, drugs in cigarettes and liquids, and threats) after which the case was announced as "broken." A handwriting expert testified in court that the signatures on the "confessions" showed signs of "strain" and duress. Defendants accused the cops of dictating statements to them and of being forced to write as dictated. Signatures, they declared in court, were obained while they were under the influence of drugs.

Jun-13-13-48

A defense attorney, a former Newark judge, told the court that his client was obviously in a narcotic stupor when he visited him in jail following announcement of the "confessions." Police Captain Delate, who had charge of the police "questioning," admitted in court: "I knew the truth, and I insisted on Collis English (first to be arrested) making a confession in line with the truth as I conceived it to be."

The prosecution and the police fought against the defense motion to have the police records containing the original description of the murder suspects introduced as evidence. The Judge ruled in favor of the police and the prosecution.

So the real description of the men for whom the police should be looking demains a top police secret. The six Negroes are in the death cell on "evidence" which Police Captain Delate says was the "truth as I conceived it to be."

4. THE ONLY EVIDENCE presented in substantiation of the State's charges were the "statements" of the defendants, the contents of which were denied by them. Commissioner of Public Safety Duch had told Trenton police officials in February, "I don't have to tell you men that we're in the middle of the biggest crime wave that Trenton's had for years. But I do have to tell you that something's got to be done about it. And soon!"

Jun-13-13-48

The cops understood. The Negro community and the Negro citizens of Trenton became their target. Cars driven by Negroes were stopped. A curfew was established. And then came the arbitrary arrest of 23-year-old Collis English at a street intersection.

Jun-13-13-48

There followed the weary months of drugging, beating, spectacular announcements of "confessions" to be topped by a nine-week trial in a court which leaned heavily against the defendants. Evidence in their favor was either ignored or, as in the case of the police records, not admitted. In August, a jury of nine women and three men brought back a verdict of guilty. Within a few hours the six Trenton Negroes were sentenced to death.

SINCE THAT TIME authorities have held the men almost incommunicado. The press has not been allowed to see them, although there is nothing in the law that says it may not. Even ministers who have shown a friendliness with the press have not been permitted to see the condemned men.

Jun-13-13-48

The six were scheduled to die in September, but their execution has been stayed pending review of their case by the State Supreme Court. It is the opinion of thos who have followed the case that justice for the "Trenton Six" depends upon how soon there is a national spotlight thrown upon the case.

The Civil Rights Congress, with local Trenton support, has announced its intention of preventing the death of these six Negroes whose case it terms "The Scottsboro of New Jersey."

13c 1948

Whites by Negroes (New York)

BOY WITNESS CONFUSED

13c W by N (N.Y.)

'Just Saying Things,' He Says at Brooklyn Murder Trial

The Times

New York, N.Y. 1-8-48

Donald Graff, 10 years old, was a confused youngster as he returned to the stand in Kings County Court yesterday for re-direct examination by the prosecution in the first-degree murder trial of Samuel Tito Williams, 18, accused of slaying his sister last April 19. Thurs 1-8-48

Questioned by assistant District Attorney J. Kenneth McCabe, the boy said that he was "just saying things as they came to my mind" when on Tuesday, as a prosecution witness, he had described the assailant as a white man. Williams is a Negro. The boy was present when his sister, Selma, 15, was beaten fatally in their home at 14 East Ninety-sixth Street, Brooklyn. The Times

"You told us yesterday that the man looked like the court stenographer," Mr. McCabe reminded the boy. New York, N.Y.

"I was just saying those things," the witness replied. Thurs. 1-8-48

The trial will continue this morning.

'Confession' Read at Trial

13c W by N (N.Y.)

1-14-48

Daily Worker

The reading of Samuel Tito Williams alleged confession to the bludgeon-slaying of 15-year-old Selma Graff took up most of yesterday's session of the first degree murder trial before Judge Louis Goldstein in Brooklyn County Court.

The confession, which the defense will charge was obtained from the 19-year-old Negro by force, was read to the court by Assistant District Attorney Perlman in the Liberty Avenue station house on Sept. 9. Wed 1-14-48

Williams, a slender, good looking youth, is accused of slaying the Graff girl with an iron bar last April 19. New York, N.Y.

Boy Charges White Not Negro, With His Sister's Death

13c W by N

Daily World 1-14-48

Atlanta, Ga

NEW YORK — (CNS) — In a dramatic outcry in a case that had appeared to be an open and shut one, a ten year old boy accused a white man as being the slayer of his 15 year old sister. Wed.

Donald's disturbing testimony upset the court, which was prepared to send Sam Williams, an 18 year old Negro, to the electric chair for the bludgeon killing. For Sam had confessed that he committed the murder of Selma Graff on the night of April 19th. Police quote him as saying, he entered the Graff home, drunk on a "Sneaky Pete," a potent concoction of gin and wine, when Selma caught him ramsacking a bureau. According to detectives Sam even identified a flashlight dropped in the Graff yard as his. Moreover, the slain girl's widowed mother, when seeing Sam September 9th at her home, to which police had brought him to re-enact the crime, cried out, "This is the man-- I hope he kills me now." 1-14-48

Then came Donald's testimony at the trial this week. The sole witness to the slaying, Donald told what he did on the fateful night.

"I went to bed and fell asleep. Selma's cries woke me up. All I could see was someone hitting Selma while she was in bed. A man was leaning over her raising his arm up and down. . I was afraid to put on the light and then I was hit on the head."

"What did the man look like?" Asked Judge Goldstein. "Was he a white man?" Atlanta, Ga.

In the cross examination, Donald stuck by the color of the man. "Yes, he was white, but he had red skin like that man." Then he pointed to court stenographer Louis Lehman, a stocky, ruddy faced man with black hair. Daily World

A fifth grade pupil, Donald said he understood what it meant if he didn't tell the truth. "It means I will make a sin," was his answer.

PM New York, N.Y. Thurs

Theodore Samuels with Patrolman Edward Kawiecki to whom he confessed the murder of Mrs. Frieda Frank. 6-10-48

Photo by Ray Platnick, PM

Frank Slayer Suspect Observed at Bellevue

PM 13c W by N (N.Y.)

New York, N.Y.

Theodore Samuels, 26, who allegedly confessed the strangulation robbery of Mrs. Frieda Frank, 48-year-old refugee, was under mental observation in Bellevue Hospital today. 6-10-48

Samuels was committed to the hospital at the request of his court-assigned attorney, Benjamin Schmier, in Felony Court, although Assistant District Attorney Karl Grebow insisted there was no evidence to show he was insane.

The flashily-dressed, pipe-smoking Samuels, who is five feet, seven inches tall and weighs about 165 pounds, admitted 13 other purse snatchings in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan during the last six weeks. He had been convicted by a court martial of manslaughter in the slaying of a French girl while he was in the army.

Identified by 4 Victims

Four women identified Samuels as the man who had assaulted and robbed them in the Washington Heights area.

Samuels was picked up Tuesday night after his father, William, an ordained minister, walked up to Patrolman Edward Kawiecki at Amsterdam Ave. and 163d St., and said: PM

"I'd like you to come and look at my son. He's been drinking and acting nervously. We've been scared of him ever since he killed that girl in France."

Police Say He Confessed

New York, N.Y.

At the Samuels home, 535 W. 159th St., the son was taken into custody, and police said he readily admitted the attack a week ago on Mrs. Frank, a widowed seamstress, outside the apartment house at 3750 Broadway, where she lived. Police quoted Samuels as saying:

"I saw her walk along Broadway near 155th St., and I saw her enter the apartment house. As she put the key into the door, I asked her for directions to Fort Washington Ave. Thurs. 6-10-48

"As she turned and pointed, I gave her a commando assault. I hit her in the windpipe with the edge of the palm of my right hand and she fell to the floor. I fell on top of her, for I had lost my balance."

Samuels, police said, told them he stole Mrs. Frank's purse containing $24. They found her bag and 12 others in his home.

Tip in Slaying Wins Patrolman His Old Rank

Herald Tribune

13c (N.Y.)

Demoted Detective Worked on Death of Brooklyn Woman in Off-Duty Hours

Sat 10-16-48

New York, N.Y.

Walter T. Davis, a twenty-one-year-old unemployed trucker's helper, was arraigned yesterday in Brooklyn Felony Court for the murder of Miss Mary Madeline Gray, eighty, in her apartment at 17 Madison Street, Brooklyn, early last Saturday. Magistrate Thomas H. Cullen held Davis without bail for hearing Oct. 22.

The arraignment revealed that Davis's arrest was achieved by Patrolman Henry Dwyer, of the Classon Avenue station, who was demoted from first-grade detective in 1940 for personal difficulties. The demotion reduced his salary from $4,000 a year to $3,000. He was determined to regain his position and frequently told fellow patrolmen he'd "get to be a detective again if it was the last thing he did."

Last Wednesday evening Mr. Dwyer met Deputy Chief Inspector William T. Whalen outside the police station. Inspector Whalen was in charge of the 200 detectives and patrolmen on the Gray case. "If I break this for you, will you put me back in the bureau?" Mr. Dwyer asked.

"You break this for me and I'll do anything in the world for you," the inspector said.

Man Called Boots

After work, Mr. Dwyer got into plain clothes and began to roam the poolrooms and taverns of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section, where he had made it a practice to keep friends all the time he was a patrolman. In one place he overheard a conversation that when the police got the slayer, they'd have a man named Boots. Then Mr. Dwyer had to find out who Boots was.

Sat 10-16-48

Some hours later he learned that Boots had a girl friend and still later he learned that she was the mother of Davis's twenty-two-month-old daughter, Anna.

On Thursday Mr. Dwyer visited the girl and she finally told him that Boots was Davis, that he lived at 8 Monroe Street, which backs onto the rear of Miss Gray's home. Mr. Dwyer then called Inspector Whalen and told him he had a lead; the inspector assigned several other officers to go with Mr. Dwyer to Davis's home. They waited at the house until 4:30 p. m., when they picked up Davis as he returned from a neighborhood motion picture.

Davis, who was on parole from Hampton Farms for a pickpocket offense, police said, was taken to the station for questioning. He denied any knowledge of the crime for eight hours; then he fell into one of the oldest traps in the world.

"What'd you do with the knife?" one officer suddenly snapped at him.

Knife Is Found in Lot

"Thew it in—what knife?" Davis answered. An hour later he had told police how he entered Miss Gray's home, stabbed her several times with a penknife when she struggled with him, fled, and threw the knife in a vacant lot. He denied that he raped her, as police charge. Davis also denied he attacked Miss Emma E. Barwell, thirty-six, of 1284 Dean Street, Brooklyn, in the Independent subway station at Nostrand Avenue and Fulton Street, Brooklyn, on Sept. 28. Miss Barwell identified him as the man, police said.

Sat 10-16-48

Detectives searcher the vacant lot near Miss Gray's home on their hands and knees yesterday and found Davis's penknife.

Mr. Dwyer is forty, married, lives at 268 Seventy-second Street, Brooklyn, and was appointed a third-grade detective in 1933; second grade in 1935 and first grade in 1936.

2 Negroes To Die For Cop Killing; Lose Second Appeal

The Age

New York, N.Y.

ALBANY, N. Y.—For the second time since their arrest and conviction of killing a police detective, in December, 1946, George C. Moore, 34 and Lester Haughton, 24, were told that they must die in the electric chair.

Sat. 6-19-48

Both men appeared before the Court of Appeals on Wednesday, a rarity according to court records, and were told that their new date of execution would be July 22.

6-19-48

The condemned men were surprised during a holdup of a Bronx liquor store by Detective James M. Burke, and in the gun battle that followed killed the police officer.

On appealing their case, they were turned down by the Court of Appeals, who upheld the conviction and they were sentenced to die at Sing Sing on January 5, of this year.

Sam Williams Found Guilty

The Defender

NEW YORK-- Samuel Williams, 18, of 612 Rockaway ave., Brooklyn, was found guilty of the first degree murder of Selma Graff, 15 year old white girl, in Kings County Court last week.

Sat 2-7-48

Chicago Ill

During the early stages of the trial, Selma's 10- year-old brother Donald, the only eye-witness, told the jury that his sister was murdered by a white man. Later he said he wasn't sure.

Sat 2-7-48

No date has been set for passing sentence but Williams may escape the electric chair as the Jury has recommended mercy.

Police Nab Negro At Funeral Of Murder Victim

Macon World

Brooklyn (CNS) For four days this town had been searching feverishly for a "six foot tall, light colored Negro", as the description read — who had raped and stabbed to death an eighty year old white spinister in her apartment. Such a man appeared at the funeral of this Mary Gray in the same checkered suit, brown sport shirt, trench coat that had been described by a woman neighbor of Miss Gray.

Sat 10-23-48

He paced before the Roman Catholic Church, just 10 minutes after the morning services had begun. As the Rev. John Kreig was offering mass inside the church "for a nice old lady", he leaned nochalantly against a picket fence and lighted a cigarette not noticing the plain-clothesmen with their eagle eyes. He smoked one cigarette after another, and once or twice glanced at the top floor apartmet where the spinister was murdered. Finally, just as the service was over and the casket was being carried out of the church, police moved in on him, so quietly that not even the 200 mourners knew what was going on.

Macon, Ga

He told the police, that he was only 21, married, a resident of the street where the murder happened, employed as a shipping clerk and here from Florida since 1945. He also admitted he had come to the church "just to look around". Until he had shown up, more than 100 suspects had been rounded up for what has been called one of the most atrocious crimes in the city's history.

13c 1948

Whites by Negroes (North Carolina)

Cheraw Mill Worker Slain; Negro Held

The Record

SANFORD, N. C., July 13—(UP)—Negro Willie Melvin was held without bond today in the slaying of James Huntley, Cheraw, S. C. sawmill worker.

Columbia, S.C.

Officers said Melvin admitted at a coroner's inquest yesterday he stabbed Huntley. But, they reported, Melvin claimed it was in self-defense.

Tue. 7-13-48

13c 1948 Whites by Negroes (Oklahoma)

IN STATE PEN SINCE 1945

To Live in City Where 'Democracy Works Most'

TULSA.—Amos T. Hall, attorney for Benton, left the city for McAlester on Wednesday where after conferring with him and gaining his release, put Benton on a train for New York City.

Through the courtesy of several North Tulsa churches, funds were provided to pay railway fare. He will live in New York with a sister, Mrs. Dorothy Brooks, a former WAC, now teaching there.

TULSA. — Leroy Benton, convicted of the slaying of Panta Lou Liles (white), and imprisoned at the State penitentiary since 1945, was given a clean bill by the State Wednesday of last week.

The court's action came after a mandate was issued from the Court of Criminal Appeals that unless the State had "obtained competent evidence in addition to that disclosed by the record then the District Court is ordered to dismiss the prosecution and discharge the defendant."

County Attorney Elmer Adams conferred with police chief Roy Hyatt, police captain Harry L. Stege and Sgt. William N. Robbins late Monday and announced at the conclusion that he would make further investigation of the case. He also conferred with former Attorney Dixie Gilmer, who prosecuted Benton and former Asst. County Attorney Matt Sims, but on Tuesday evening he told Benton's attorney, Amos T. Hall, to sign for release.

Benton was sentenced in November, 1945, to life imprisonment by a jury in former Judge Harry Halley's Court of the rape-slaying of Panta Lou Liles. The higher court threw out the oral confession on the grounds that Benton was frightened when he made it. He is supposed to have made his purported oral confession after long questioning by city and county detectives and then changed his mind before a written statement was taken.

13c 1948 Whites by Negores (Oregon)

Churchmen intervene in Negro's behalf

Tribune
Los Angeles
Calif

PORTLAND, Ore. — The Portland Council of Churches has appealed to Governor Hall to either commute to life imprisonment the death sentence of Wardell Henderson, a Negro, or to grant a stay of execution until the case can be studied further. Sat. 1-17-48

The council said it had studied the case and has concluded the penalty was "excessive." The Oregon Journal has raised the question of whether the penalty was so extreme because the Negro had killed a white man. The slain man

13c 1948 Whites By Negores (Pennsylvania)

Berserk Gunman Kills 8 and Wounds 5, Then Kills Himself As Police Close In

Courier Journal 13c Nov 11-7-48

Louisville Ky.

Officers Unable To Find Motive

Chester, Pa., Nov. 6 (AP)—A deadly accurate beserk gunman, barricaded in his squalid second-story tenement room, killed eight persons and wounded five others, before taking his own life as police laid siege to his meager fortress.

Assistant District Attorney R. Paul Lessy identified the gunman as Melvin Collins, 38-year-old Negro from Exmore, Va., and said all except one of Collins' victims were Negroes.

Police were unable to find an explanation for the shooting.

Police Chief Andrew J. Desmond, Jr., pieced together this account from eyewitnesses:

About 8:30 a.m. four men were gathered in front of an alley adjoining the restaurant above which Collins lived. Suddenly Collins opened the window and shouted: "Call the cops."

Passer-by Picks Up Dime.

Collins did not explain why he wanted the police.

A dime fell near a passer-by who picked it up and handed it to Harry Gibbs, one of the group:

Gibbs remarked: "This will get me a cup of coffee."

Suddenly Collins shoved a .22-caliber rifle out the window and fired. Edward Boyer fell dead. The others scattered.

Detective Elery Purnsley, attracted by the gunfire on his way to work, fired at Collins and the gun battle had begun. Moments later the detective fell dead on the sidewalk, a bullet through his heart.

Police Reserves Called.

Fred Casino, 38, a white man, started to the detective's aid, but was killed as he started to leave his automobile.

The echoing shots attracted curious spectators from the densely populated section. Neighbors poked their heads from windows. Collins continued firing as the police radio called up all available City and State police reserves.

Two women across the street looked out a second-floor window. A shot struck Louise Moore critically wounding her in the head. Another bullet struck Hattie Nichols, 29.

Shout Surrender Order.

Nov 11-7-48

Police began pumping tear-gas shells into Collins room. Other officers opened fire with pistols, shotguns, and submachine guns. Streets in the vicinity were empty as passers-by ducked for shelter.

As fire from the second-story window slackened, State Police Sgt. Francis X. Kelly and Chester police worked their way cautiously up a narrow stairway to the second floor. They shouted to Collins to surrender.

When there was no reply from within the room, they battered at the shaky, barricaded door leading to the room. From inside the gas-filled, bullet-riddled room a single shot rang out. As the officers pushed back the door, Collins lay beside a dirty bed with his gun lengthwise on his body. A single bullet fired into his mouth had coursed upward through his skull.

Nov 11-7-48

At Chester Hospital the dead were listed as Purnsley, 56, first Negro to be appointed a City community of 60,000; Casino; James Simon; Peter Parker; Boyer, and Samuel Hill, about 43; Samuel Little, and Collins. Louise Moore died later in the hospital from a gun wound.

The wounded were listed as Hattie Nichols; Green, William Wilson, 63; Monroe Wyche, 57, and Bert Purnsley, 36-year-old son of the detective.

13c 1948

White by Negroes -(Texas)

Youth Appeals Death Sentence In Slaying

The Informer

DALLAS— Lee Cassell, 17 year old youth, sentenced to the electric chair last month in the [illegible] murder of a white man, is appealing his death sentence to a higher court. Grounds were laid, Saturday, when a motion for a new trial was denied by Judge Henry King of the Criminal District Court, in which a jury found Cassell guilty and sentenced him to the electric chair.

Sat 3-13-48

The case may eventually land in the U. S. Supreme Court, for which the ground was laid in the very the Grand Jury that indicted Cassell, and none were on the petit jury which tried him. The U. S. Supreme Court has preciously reversed convictions on these grounds.

Houston Texas

But Cassell's Attorney, W. E. Pinkston, has hopes for reversing the conviction in the court of Criminal Appeals on the basis of any of several errors made in the trial court.

Aside from the reversibel errors made at the trial, there are several flaws and weaknesses in the evidence which Cassell's Attorney feels makes the evidence insufficient for a guilty verdict and the death issue.

Eddie Hamilton and Cassell about 8 p. m. September 22 robbed a store next door to the funiture store where Wilson was murdered. Cassell insisted that he was not with Hamilton when Wilson was murdered and did not know it had occurred. Cassell was with Hamilton, when Hamilton went into the Negro Unions Council and secured a loan of $3 on a gun. He was with him the next day when Hamilton went to a pa shop on Elm, to sell another gun. Both guns were taken during the robbery in which Wilson was killed while he lay asleep on a couch near the door, and Cassell and Hamilton entered to rob the next building.

Sat 3-13-48

It was the attempted sale of this gun that led tothearresto f repudiated, it was stated that the reason for the killing of Wilson was that the robbers hit him to knock him out so he would not awaken while they were robbing the store next door in which two pistols and over coat were taken.

Charged With Slugging White Man To Death

The Informer

HOUSTON — Andrew Lee, 54, who told officers he lived 'nowhere in particular,' was charged with the slaying of Carl Ennis Ponder a white man, after confessing Tuesday to slugging the man with a stick near the [illegible] [illegible] company, 2701 Bay street, December 4. He was charged before Justice of the Peace W. C. Ragan.

Sat 1-17-48

Houston Texas

Ponder's body was discovered December 5, lying in a clump of willow trees some distance from the plant near the dump pile, by George Holland a Negro who lives about 100 yards farther south of the plant in a shanty. The dead man's body was partly covered with pieces of cardboard, rags and leaves, officers said.

Lee was suspected after officers learned that he had been seen December 4, with the slain man lying on the ground near the willows, drinking wine. George Holland said that both men hung around his place a lot and he knew the slain man as "Lufkin." He told officers that Lee came to his place December 5 to get some clothes he had left there and remarked that he 'had done something.'

Lee told officers that he had known the slain man about three years. He said he had had some trouble with him about a year and a half ago and that Ponder had had 'had it in' for him ever since.

Thursday December 4, Lee said he said he and the slain man got into an argument about some brass the man said he had taken from the Southern Pacific Railroad company and had sold to buy wine. Lee said he did not want the Co. to think that he had taken the brass and that Ponder told him he better not tell.

Sat 1-17-48

During the argument, Lee said Ponder picked up a stick and struck him with it. He picked up another stick and kept beating the slain man until he fell, Lee told officers. He said he partly covered Ponder with leaves and left and did not know he was dead until officers arrested him.

13c 1948 Whites by Negroes (Washington)

Negro Ax-Slayer Of Two Admits Killing 10 Others In Midwest

News-Age Herald

Birmingham, Ala

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 3—(AP)—Undersheriff Joseph Karpach said Saturday that Jake Bird, Negro, ax-slayer of two Tacoma women, has admitted the murder of 10 other persons during his 20-year wanderings through the Midwest. Sun. 1-4-48

Bird's confessions were contained in a four-page dictated confession which he signed in his Walla Walla Penitentiary death cell where he is to hang Jan. 16 for the ax-slaying of Mrs Bertha Kludt here Oct. 30. Mrs. Kludt's daughter, Beverly June, was also killed when she attempted to defend her mother.

Karpach's list of Bird's admitted crimes included the following slayings:

Harvey Boyd, 8, at East Omaha, Iowa, in June, 1928, for which Clarence Lukehart has served 19 years of a life sentence in the Iowa Penitentiary.

J. W. Blackman, Omaha, Neb. on Nov. 18, 1928.

Mrs. Waldo Resso and her sister, Creta Brown, 19, on Nov. 19 1928. On Nov. 21 Bird attempted to murder Harold Stribling in Carter Lake, Iowa, a suburb of Omaha, for which he was apprehended and served 12 years in the Iowa Penitentiary. News-Age-Herald

Alta Fulkerson, 36, Highland Park, Ill., on June 24, 1942. Birmingham, Ala.

An unnamed retired railroad watchman, his wife and their 18-year-old son, at South Bend, Ind., in September, 1942. Sun.

Mrs. Marie Manners, 81, at Pueblo, Colo., on Oct. 1, 1947.

An unnamed man in Ogden, Utah, on Oct. 6, 1937. 1-4-48

The 45-year-old Negro transient indicated he had further disclosures to make, Karpach said, and a return visit to the doomed man's cell is planned soon.

13c 1948 Whites By Whites (South Carolina)

(13c)

Negro, White Leaders Call New's Slaying 'Political'

By Art Shields

(Reprinted from yesterday's late edition)

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 11.—Negro and white Wallace leaders of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia yesterday denounced the assassination of Robert New, chairman of the Wallace-for-President Committee of Charleston, as "political," and demanded Federal protection of human life in the South.

Rev. Jacob Dyer, Negro Congregationalist Minister of Charleston, who was co-chairman of the Wallace Committee with New, declared:

"Robert New died for his cause as truly as though he had fallen on the battlefield. "We'll carry the cause on."

Larkin Marshall, third party candidate for U.S. Senate from Georgia, and publisher of the **Macon World**, a Negro newspaper, also pressed the demand for justice against the slayer and for protection for the Third Party forces, in a long distance talk with this reporter.

Similar statements were made by Robert Elwood, when he took part in a conference of more than 100 delegates from nine Congressional Districts Sunday, and from Mike Ross, Wallace Committee secretary for North Carolina, an organizer for the CIO Furniture Workers.

A wave of anger against National Maritime Union president Joseph Curran's "caucus" of which the killer, Rudolph Serreo, was a member, swept the Charlestown waterfront.

"CAUCUS" MEMBER DEFEATED

So overwhelming was the feeling that a local "caucus" member received only eight votes in a contest for chairman at an NMU port membership meeting that was dealing with the new murder.

The remaining 170 votes were distributed among four Negroes, who were all friends of Robert New, the murder victim, who had fought for Negro and white unity as Charleston port chairman. The winner had more than 100 votes.

The seamen voted to name their two-story headquarters at 1 Hasell St. "Robert New Hall."

Seamen's anger against the "caucus" flared out again when a telegram was read from NMU national secretary, Ferdinand C. Smith, quoting a wire killer Serreo had sent to President Curran two weeks before the slaying.

KILLER'S WIRE TO CURRAN

The wire, dated April 22, began by saying: "Joe, remember the chain gang and baseball bats in New Orleans when they worked on Tex Drake and I got away, Joe."

It went on then to ask Curran to investigate serreo's ring as a ballot committee member on charges.

The "chain gang" was part of the disruptive "Mariner's Club" of labor spies of 1938 and 1939, which almost broke up the union. "Serreo's reference to baseball bats "is not a coincidence," said Smith, quoting a press conference of last September, in which Curran was reported as saying: "We'll get rid of them (the "Communists") if we have to use clubs as we've done before."

"Well, Serreo didn't only resort to clubs, he resorted to knives, continued Smith. "This is a new patter for the caucus boys."

Smith also quoted a statement by Curran at a meeting of the NMU Council, of which New was a member, objecting to the council's action in cutting Serreo off the payroll.

Serreo had been ousted by a Charleston trial committee after a hearing on charges of drunkeness and interfering with the election.

At a previous Charleston meeting Robert "Red" Hawkes, port agent, from Savannah, Ga., was applauded when he denounced the "caucus" activity as "gangsterism" that had now produced murder.

(13c)

Serreo Defense: Slew Man Who 'Fraternized with Negroes'

Daily Worker

New York

By Art Shields

CHARLESTON, S. C., May 12.—Rudolph Serreo, Curran caucus man, who murdered Robert New, NMU port agent and chairman of the Wallace-for-President committee, will ask the jury to free him as an "anti-Communist." His defense was outlined yesterday by his attorney, the elderly Thomas P. Stoney, former mayor of Charleston, who heads the firm of Stoney, Crosland & Pitchard, the richest legal outfit in the coastal city.

Thurs.

Stoney was telling William F. McCarthy, national director of the National Maritime Union, in substance, that he didn't consider it a crime to kill a man who fraternized with Negroes and supported Henry Wallace.

5-13-48

Bob New's slashed body was buried in his father's farm at Nagoochee, Ga., yesterday. But New, not Serro, will be the defendant, next summer if Stoney has his way.

Stoney paced the floor as though he were talking to a jury, as he said:

"At the trial I will prosecute Bob New for raising unrest among the colored people in the South. I will prosecute him also as the chairman of the Wallace committee, and as a Communist."

Stoney admitted he had a "tough case." The evidence against the man who plunged a seven-inch knife into New's throat, after announcing his intention to attack him two hours before, is "overwhelming," he conceded.

If the "Reds" didn't raise a "hue and cry" about the matter he would "make a deal with the prosecutor," he said.

The deal would be to give Serreo "time," that is a prison sentence, not the chair.

"Then the Governor will pardon him," he said.

"Of course," he added, "If the 'Reds' raise a hue and cry and put pressure on the circuit solicitor, we'll have to fight."

The rich old lawyer's frankness was amazing.

"In that case," he said, "I will go before the people of Charleston and tell them what is happening nationally in this country."

"I will tell them how Serreo's feelings against Communism were seething within him."

"And I'll prosecute Bob New for coming down here and stirring up the colored people."

McCarthy had difficulty controlling himself. But his assignment from the national office of the NMU was to investigate the killing. So he merely reminded the former mayor as quietly as possible that New hadn't "come down" south—he was born in the south, he told Stoney.

5-13-48

"In fact he was buried yesterday on his father's old farm in northern Georgia," he said.

Serreo's lawyer came back quickly. "Men like New are the very worst kind of Southerners," he said. "When a Southerner acts that way he is 10 times worse than any Northerner."

McCarthy suggested that the lawyer's fee would be large in such a case.

"My fee for this kind of a case—and it's a tough case—would be $10,000," said Stoney.

"Serreo hasn't a dime, but there are enough people around here who know what New represented as chairman of this Wallace committee."

Stoney said that Serreo had asked him to get in touch with NMU president Joe Curran. He hadn't done that yet, he asserted.

13d 1948

Board Grants 11 Paroles Denies 7

Montgomery Advertiser

Eleven new applications for parole were granted and seven denied by the State Board of Pardons and Paroles for the week ending March [illegible] L. B. Stephens, board secretary, announced Thursday. Montgomery, Ala.

Among those receiving paroles were two Negro women, and one Negro man, who were serving life sentences for homicide.

Receiving paroles were:

Afton Germany, sentenced from Talladega County on Feb. 10, 1947, to serve three years for distilling and three months for violation of the prohibition law.

Louise Newsome, sentenced from Montgomery County on Nov. 17, 1944, to serve six years for assault to murder.

Early Gamble, Jr., Negro, sentenced from Tallapoosa County on Feb. 1, 1947, to serve two years for assault with intent to murder.

Dora Jackson, Negro woman, sentenced from Russell County on Oct. 1, 1947, to serve life for homicide.

John E. Allen, Negro, sentenced from Montgomery County on June 7, 1945, to serve five years for manslaughter.

Aughtley Lee Rogers, Negro, sentenced from Dallas County on Feb. 24, 1944, to serve 25 years for homicide.

Viola Potts, Negro woman, sentenced from Dallas County on Feb. 24, 1939, to serve life for homicide.

Ocie Mosely, Negro, sentenced from Dallas County on Feb. 24, 1944, to serve seven and a half years for one case of burglary, and two years for another case of burglary. Fri. 3-5-48

Tommy Martin, Negro, sentenced from Bibb County on Feb. 6, 1947, to serve two years for distilling.

John Blair, Negro, sentenced from Bullock County on Feb. 12, 1941, to serve life for homicide.

John L. Hinton, Negro, sentenced from Jefferson County on March 10, 1947, to serve six months each on three cases of assault and battery.

And Now The Question—Is 13 Lucky—Unlucky? Opinion Divided Here

The Advertiser
Fri. 6-18-48
Montgomery, Ala.

Thirteen applications for parole were approved and 13 denied by the State Board of Pardons for the week ending June 14, L. B. Stephens, board secretary, announced Thursday.

Those receiving paroles were:

Fleetwood Kyser, sentenced from Tuscaloosa County and serving a six-month sentence for shooting into a dwelling.

Gilmer Todd, sentenced from Choctaw County on June 6, 1944 to serve 25 years for homicide.

Harold Botham, sentenced from Mobile County on May 3, 1944, to serve 20 years for robbery.

G. S. Floyd, sentenced from Jefferson County on January 19, 1937, to serve 15 years for robbery. Montgomery, Ala.

G. P. Crager, sentenced from Washington County on November 10, 1947, to serve one year and three months for distilling.

Robert Crider, Negro, sentenced from Colbert County on June 18, 1940, to serve 30 years for homicide. Fri. 6-18-48

Joseph Stevens, Negro, sentenced from Montgomery County on June 8, 1935, to serve life for robbery.

Abraham Tolbert, Negro, sentenced from Russell County on June 11, 1946, to serve five years for manslaughter.

Ocie Dunning, Negro, sentenced from Tuscaloosa County on May 28, 1947, to serve two years for homicide.

James E. Williams, Negro, sentenced from Mobile County on December 23, 1941, to serve 18 years for burglary, grand larceny and receieving stolen property.

Lee Sankey, Negro, sentenced from Montgomery County on June 1, 1943, to serve 40 years for homicide. 6-18-48

Ervin Edwards, Negro, sentenced from Mobile County on December 9, 1946, to serve three years for grand larceny. Fri.

Henry Jefferson, Negro, sentenced from Dallas County on March 24, 1947, to serve three years for second degree burglary.

Twice In Jeopardy

Montgomery Advertiser

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 16.—(AP)—A 45-year-old Negro who was once sentenced to die in the electric chair was acquitted today on charges of burglary.

Judge Robert J. Wheeler said he would recommend to the State Parole Board that Leveret's parole be revoked and he be returned to prison to serve a life sentence. Montgomery Alabama

Leveret was convicted on a charge of armed robbery in Jefferson County in 1929 and sentenced to the electric chair. Gov. B. M. Miller later commuted the sentence to life imprisonment and he was paroled in 1941.

As we see it from this dispatch, the Birmingham judge is violating justice in so doing. Fri. 12-17-48

Alabama

The man was paroled in 1941. This year he was tried for burglary. But the state was unable to convict him. Presumably the judge thought him guilty and aims to convict and confine him by extra-legal means.

Revoking the man's parole and returning him to prison is, in effect, trying him twice—which our law does not countenance. When a man is acquitted, he can not be tried again.

We have no doubt that the Negro is a bad man and it would be better for society were he imprisoned. But to imprison him by this oblique method is stooped justice that mocks our system. Fri. 12-17-48

13d .194

General

RALPH T. JONES

The Constitution

Reformation, as Well as Punishment

Atlanta, Ga

Jan 1-25-48

A letter, from a lady in Brookhaven:

"Mr. Jones: Would you please answer through the paper why paroles are granted to convicted murderers? I note in the courthouse news all parolees are Negroes, among whom are three murderers—one who was sentenced to 20 years and has only served about five.

"Why go to the trouble of sentencing murderers and releasing them so soon?

"A murderer should never be given freedom: let him pay by imprisonment for his crime. We have too much of such leniency in Atlanta. . . ."

* * * *

It seems to me the lady has forgotten one extremely important purpose of our prisons. She seems to believe the sole reason for a penal institution is punishment, to exact the revenge of society against those who have violated society's laws.

She overlooks the equally important function of reformation, the regeneration of the prisoner, the convicted individual.

A prison system which seeks only to punish is a relic of the dark ages. The Constitution

Modern penology contemplates the cure of the prisoner from the moral sickness which has made him a law transgressor. It seeks to make him fit to become an asset, instead of a liability, to his community. When, in the opinion of a competent parole board a prisoner who has served the legal minimum portion of his sentence, has demonstrated by his behavior, by his character development, that he may be trusted to behave as a good citizen, it is but right he be given another chance to prove himself as a free man.

Atlanta Ga. Jan 1-25-48

Not All Alike As a matter of simple fact, not all of those guilty of homicide, or murder, are equal in moral guilt. The man who, in momentary heat of passion, without forethought, kills another is not, morally, as vicious a criminal as the one who plans his murder in advance and cold-bloodedly carries it out.

Nor should the question of motive be overlooked. The degree of moral guilt largely depends upon the motive for the crime.

Our courts and juries even take this into consideration. Witness the well-known "unwritten law." It is customary to find guiltless the man who kills the violator of his home.

However, I will concede to the writer of the above letter there does seem, in some cases, to be an excess of leniency in the granting of paroles. That may be attributed to the human fallibility of the responsible officials. A proper parole system, as outlined above, is a good and necessary thing. The Constitution

Only in extremely rare cases does justice demand that all hope be taken from any prisoner. Such harshness would be brutal and not consonant with intelligent civilization. Jan 1-25-48

I am not quite sure, but it is my understanding that, under Georgia law, a prisoner given a life sentence is eligible to apply for parole after he has served seven years. Atlanta, Ga

Too Lenient? I will agree that there is a habit of looking too lightly upon Negro killers of other Negroes. I have heard many complaints on this point from the better class of Negroes themselves. The Constitution

They say that the tendency of some prosecutors is too apt to be "oh, that's just another Negro killing." With the result the prosecution does not work very hard on the case, the killer frequently gets off with too light a sentence, in due course receives parole. The result, I have been told, is that some types of Negro hold life too cheaply; that homicide is too lightly regarded among such Negroes themselves. Atlanta, Ga. Jan 1-25-48

But I will never agree that all murderers, regardless of circumstances of their crime, regardless of evidence of reform in prison, be denied all hope of ultimate restoration to freedom.

The words "abandon hope all ye who enter here" properly belong only over the portals of hell. 1-25-48

Forced To Work 17 Hours A Day For $20 Weekly

Defender

Chicago Ill

Sat. 6-19-48

6-19-48

A charge that he was paroled in a strange town and forced to work in near slave conditions was leveled by Robert Harris, 50, in a habeas corpus suit to secure his release from prison in Federal Court last week. Defender

Harris, sentenced for from one year to life in 1927 for burglary, was paroled to James Wade, parol supervisor for Pulaski and Alexander Counties, in 1944. In Cairo, Harris was forced to work at the Cairo Cake and Meal Co. for 48 cents an hour while laborers were earning 97 cents on other jobs. He was also forced to work nine hours a night in a cab company owned by Wade's brother, Arthur, for $1 a night.

Out of this Harris charged that he was made to live with a policeman named John Stokes, paying $7.50 a week for room and board, and $6 for clothing.

Warned Oo Job 6-19-48

He asked Wade several times for permission to change jobs, but was warned to work where he was told, Harris charged. After this, Wade and Stokes began telling him to "watch his step," Harris declared.

Harris said he was sent back to prison three weeks after his parole after being shot and accused of three crimes for which he never faced trial. He said that on the night he was shot, he had left the cab company' office and was crossing the street to buy a snack, when someone shouted "that's him," and a man in a car shot him in the thigh.

Wade then recommended that his parole be revoked, although the state's attorney refused to prosecute him, Harris asserted. At the parole hearing, only one member of the board was present, he said. Chicago Ill

Wade, who earns $212 a month plus travelling expenses as parole supervisor, said he never received any money for "farming out parolees." He admitted that he has paroled convicts working for him now at $4 and $5 a day, and that he sometimes requests parolees as dishwashers and porters.

Hunt "Burglar Sat.

Wade claimed that Harris was attempting to burglarize a market across the street from the court house when he was shot. There had been three other burglaries recently and he and Stokes were "watching" Harris, he said.

One of the places robbed was a grocery chain store, and Stokes, a policeman for 21 years, claimed that food bearing the store label he found in Harris' room was evidence that he was the burglar.

Federal Judge William J. Campbell declared that there may be grave injustice in the case, and appointed two lawyers, including the son of Harold Ickes to represent Harris. 6-19-48

Asks Opportunity For All Citizens Parole Officer

Daily World

Sat. 2-7-48

PHOENIX, Ariz. —(ANP)— Samuel J. Battle, member of the powerful three-man parole commission of New York City who is here for what he terms his first extended vacation in 37 years of police work, came out with a plea for "greater opportunities for persons of all races."

Atlanta Ga.

"We should center our efforts on ways to prevent crime by providing properly supervised parks and other places of recreation for our children," he declared. "Our national crime bill is $16,000,000 a year. If we'd spend half that much on crime prevention, it might come close to solving the problem of crime."

FORMER PORTER

Battle, a one-time butler who became a porter at Grand Central station, New York, created "quite a furoe" in 1911 by passing a civil service examination and becoming the first Negro patrolman appointed to the police force of Greater New York. In 1926, he passed an examination which made him sergeant and then in 1935, was elevated to police lieutenancy.

At the death of Lou Gehrig in 1941, the late Mayor Fiorello La-Gehrig's unexperienced term as parole commissioner. The term runs until 1950.

Sat. 2-7-48

In addition, he is a member of the committee which has influenced leading New York papers to eliminate the word "Negro" from most crime reports, prominent in NAACP circles, vice-president of the Police Athletic league and a member of the committee in charge of the Harlem Camp fund.

He and his wife are guests of Wade Hammon, founder of the Phoenix Urban league.

State Board Of Pardons, Paroles Releases Negroes

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Thurs.
7-22-48

The State Board of Pardons and Paroles has released a large number of Negroes who were serving sentences growing out of convictions in various Georgia counties.

Among the prisoners released on parole are: Jim Moseley, 10-20 for burglary in Putman County Feb. 28, 1944; Willie Lee Smith (woman) 15-20 years for robbery in Spaulding County April 15, 1943; Arthur Simmons, 2-4 years for assault to murder in Chatham County, Oct. 1, 1947; Leonard Shields, 2-4 years for assault to murder in Duffie County Oct. 18, 1947; James Robert Sims, 5-20 years in connection with a slaying, and 12 months concurrently for carrying a pistol without a license; Jonas Meeks, 2 years for a felony in Thomas County, April 30, 194[illegible].

Thurs. 7-22-48

Nathaniel Johnson, 2 years for larceny in Gordon County Oct. 3, 1947; Buck Culverson, 15-20 years for voluntary manslaughter in Carroll County Nov. 28, 1945; Elisha Bunion, 15-20 years for arson in McDuffie County March 8, 1940; Willie Robinson, 10 years for robbery in Bibb County, September 23, 1943 and Miles Brinson, 2 years for a felony in Stewart County Oct. 24, 1947; Clifford Tooley Davis, 10-15 years for robbery in Monroe County, March 6. 1943.

(13e)

66 Negroes Ask End to Lynch Rule

The Worker
New York N.Y.
Sun.

BIRMINGHAM.—The brutal wave of police terror against the Negro people of this community, which has resulted in the police killing of at least 10 Negro citizens in the past 10 weeks, has brought forth a united protest from the Negro people. 7-11-48

In a historic petition for the redress of grievances, 66 Negro business, professional, civic, church welfare and health organizations called on the law enforcement authorities in this county and in the state, including the governor, to protect the Negro citizens from KKK violence and from police brutality.

The group of petitioners, who had joined together to form the Negro Citizens Defense Committee, also asked for a coroner's inquest for six of the Negro citizens who have been killed by police officers within the past 60 days.

★

COUNTY SOLICITOR Emmet Perry is the only official who has replied to the petition of 66 leading Negro organizations of this county, calling for investigation fo the police killings of six Negro citizens and asking that steps be taken to protect Negroes from killing insult and intimidation from the police and from the KKK.

Perry, in a formal document, told the petitioners that they had three courses of action: a coroner's inquest or a grand jury proceeding, both secret; or warrant proceedings against one or more of the accused police, which would be public. The Negro Citizens Defense Committee, which circulated the petition, is only interested in public proceedings, which will expose the entire regime of police terrorism in this community and at this writing has not decided upon what future course of action to pursue.

The petition itself was a historic document, representing the united demands of more than 100,000 Negro citizens of Jefferson County. It was addressed to the governor, to all county and city officials in charge of law enforcement.

The Worker

THE PETITION CITED "the appalling number of homicides committed by peace officers in the supposed process of arrests; the willful bombing of Negro homes (the perpetrators of the crimes being in no instance determined by the peace officers and no prosecution sought); and by the policy of many peace officers of deliberately threatening, accosting, humiliating and insulting Negro citizens, who are not engaged in the commission of any crime. . . ." N.Y.

The Negro Citizens Defense Committee was organized, says the petition, "for the purpose of devising ways and means of securing for the Negro citizens of Jefferson County a greater measure of protection in the enjoyment of their rights to life, liberty and property."

Special mention is made of the revival of the KKK and similar organizations in Alabama, and the increasing number of threats received in the recent period by the KKK against Negro citizens.

The petition asks not only for a coroner's inquest into the killing of six Negro citizens, among them the 19-year-old honor high school graduate, Marion Noble; but also for a grand jury investigation into the brutal practices of police in this county, and for a special investigation by the attorney general into the practices and policies of the police officers of the Birmingham area. 7-11-48

BIRMINGHAM BIT OFF SOMETHING TO CHEW

The Union
Cincinnati Ohio

Birmingham, May 18—This "magic city" of Bull the Chief and iron seemingly bit off something to chew when it insulted U. S. Senator Glen Taylor a few dags ago by arresting him for using a door of entrance to a church of God. 5-20-48

For a week now the F.B.I. has been around, investigating both the brutality of the Police towards the Negro Youth Congress and the manhandling of Sen. Taylor. As usual with the cowards in these parts, officials and authorities are busy explaining and "entertaining", and drawing on the "southern belle" stuff. But the Department of Justice, withstanding all temptations, has let it be known that it means to find out if the Birmingham police conspired to violate the civil rights of any of the people of the city.

Taylor Roughed Up, Arrested in Alabama

Daily Worker
New York

(13e)

By Abner W. Berry

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., ~~May 2.—Sen. Glen Taylor (D-Ida)~~ accused Birmingham police today of having roughed him up when they arrested him for attempting to attend a Southern Negro Youth Congress rally through a Jimcrow entrance. The Third Party vice-presidential candidate was felled twice by the cops who seized him and dragged him to jail, where he was booked on a charge of violating Section 159 of the city's criminal code. That section pertains to Birmingham's segregation laws.

Taylor was released on $100 bond in time to make a scheduled radio talk in which he reiterated his anti-segregation stand and demanded full equality for the Negro people. Mon. 5-3-48

While he was being manhandled and arrested, the delegates to the Southern Negro Youth Congress inside the Alliance Gospel Tabernacle kept singing: "Taylor is our leader. We shall not be moved."

Taylor said his way was "blocked by a burly policeman" when he approached the "Negro entrance" to the meeting hall.

'COLORED ENTRANCE'

The cop "informed me that this was the colored entrance. I told him it did not make any difference to me and started in," Taylor declared.

Next, Taylor said, the cop **"suddenly grabbed me, and they tell me that five other fine physical specimens came to his assistance. They pushed me off the porch. One clasped his hands and hit me with his elbows. They shoved me bodily into the automobile."**

In jail the U. S. Senator was forced through the indignities of fingerprinting and a search. Taylor said the police "treated me very rough," adding, "God help the ordinary man." 5-3-48

"I was also shown in the jail," he declared, how Negroes are treated. An officer told a tall, slim Negro to "turn around, n——r, before I knock your head off."

Taylor was freed under $100 bond, and his trial was set for Tuesday night in Recorder's Court.

"Because of urgent Senate business I am returning to Washington immediately." Taylor said in a statement released after his departure. "I shall be back Tuesday afternoon to face charges of disorderly conduct illegally pressed against me by Birmingham police.

"My arrest and manhandling by city police, who barred my entrance to a meeting in a local Negro church is a blatant violation of my constitutional rights.

"The local segregation ordinance is unconstitutional and we are prepared to carry this fight to the Supreme Court."

The attack on Taylor took place despite the fact that the Southern Negro Youth Congress, under extreme duress, had yielded to the order of Police Commissioner "Bull" Connor that segregation laws be adhered to in the meeting hall.

4 OTHERS JAILED

The previous day police had arrested three white participants as well as the Negro minister of the church in which the meeting was held.

Arrested were Miss Doris Seno, representing the World Youth Federation; Dr. James Dombrowsky, of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, and Eddie Forrey, a young Mobile seaman representing the National Maritime Union. They were charged with violation of Section 895 of the Birmingham Code having to do with separation of the races in public places. A few minutes later Rev. Herbert Oliver, youthful pastor of the Alliance Gospel Tabernacle, was arrested.

Three carloads of policemen were on hand and paraded at regular intervals through the hall adjoining the auditorium of the small frame church. Daily Worker

Police cameramen took shots of the audience.

Rev. Oliver had consented to the use of his church for the meeting after Commissioner of Public Safety (police head here) had closed all the large churches through threats of terror and intimidation.

A dance had to be cancelled when the Elks returned the deposit money with a letter stating that a call had come from City Hall asking that the doors not be opened to the youth group. New York

A call was reportedly made to the office of the SNYC in the Colored Masonic Temple announcing that the Klan would be cruising in a "black sedan looking for Louis Burnham." Burnham is executive director of the SNYC.

Last week Burnham, as well as Steven Edley, 18-year-old student, and a 58-year-old white Birmingham woman visiting the SNYC office, Mrs. H. J. Newhouse, were arrested by city police.

Burnham was grilled for about an hour. Mrs. Newhouse was held for seven hours and ~~Steven Edley~~ until ~~midnight~~, all incommunicado.

SEN. TAYLOR
Jailed in Alabama 5-3-48

An Officer's Dismissal

The News

This paper has been disturbed by charges about police methods in some cases involving the arrest of Negroes. It is alleged that some officers have been unnecessarily rough in making arrests.

(13e) Ala

At least three Negroes have been killed in Birmingham within the last two months, either during the process of arrest or after it. In each case a verdict of justifiable homicide has been rendered. Yet concern has remained in a good many minds.

Not all reports have come in from the city of Birmingham.

Birmingham, Ala.

One case in Homewood has received a good deal of attention. A Negro named Posey Paulk, it is charged, was severely beaten by a Homewood police officer, Newton G. Smith, about a month ago. Paulk was charged with drunkenness and resisting arrest and was convicted on both counts. He was said to have been beaten severely about the head by Officer Smith between the scene of the arrest and the Homewood Jail.

Wed. 5-19-48

The City Council of Homewood investigated and decided that Officer Smith had acted with much greater force than was necessary. The council thereupon dismissed Smith from the force. Smith appealed his case to the Jefferson County Civil Service Board. That agency affirmed the ruling of the council and upheld Smith's dismissal. Now Smith has filed motion for a new hearing before a three-man board of circuit judges.

This paper is gratified to know that local authorities are giving such matters the serious attention they deserve.

Birmingham Cops Threaten NAACP People

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 10.—Three Negro citizens have been subjected to insults and threats by local police for the "crime" of wearing membership buttons of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

McKinley Burton reported that two bicycle-riding policemen came up to him as he was standing in front of a local hotel one evening last week, and grabbed the button off his lapel.

Tues. 5-11-48

Another citizen, Willie Powell, told how he was sitting at a table in a cafe having a late snack with a end, Leroy Allen, when two policemen entered. The police came up to the table, ripped off Powell's button and threw it on the floor.

One said: "I'll show you what we think of your club down here."

The other demanded: "Learn how to speak to an officer. Take off your hat and say, 'captain!'"

The NAACP here has called two emergency conferences to deal with the alarming increase of police violence against Negro citizens.

Negro Is Shot Here In Scuffle With Police

The Advertiser

Julius Stovall, Negro, was shot last night about 8 o'clock, by City Detective L. Herring on North Court Street, Herring reported.

Mon. 5-

The detective said he arrested Stovall outside the Pekin Theater on a warrant charging Stovall with false pretense and was taking him back to headquarters in the back seat of his car.

Montgomery, Ala.

"Suddenly he grabbed me from

Alabama

How Police Terrorized Birmingham Churches

The Worker

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Negro churches and ministers have been the special victims of police terror in Birmingham, Alabama, in recent weeks. Negro ministers have been subjected to intimidation, threats and man-handling, and the Birmingham police have had even less respect for the inviolability of Negro churches and the so-called freedom of worship of the Negro people than Hitler's storm-troopers had for the churches of Germany.

(13e) Sun. 5-16-48

An eye-witness account of this persecution, of which the arrest of Sen. Glen Taylor and the raid on the offices of the Southern Negro Youth Congress were two of many incidents, was brought here by Miss Moranda Smith of this city, assistant regional director of the South Atlantic region FTA-CIO, who was in Birmingham to address the annual Southern Youth Legislature, sponsored by the Southern Negro Youth Congress.

"Not half the story has been told yet by the papers. I haven't seen anything about the police intimidating Negro ministers. That went on days beforehand, to try to keep the meeting from being held at all," Miss Smith said.

Sen. Taylor, who is now appealing a $50 fine and 180-day sentence imposed by the Birmingham city court for "disorderly conduct," was arrested when he tried to go into a Negro church and tell the Youth Legislature delegates that he would not speak to a segregated meeting, through a door which police who had segregated the meeting had set aside for Negroes.

5-16-48

EARLIER IN THE DAY, four other leaders at the meeting had been arrested for violation of Birmingham's segregation code and released on bond. They were Dr. James Dombrowski, executive director of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare; Rev. H. Douglas Oliver, pastor of the Alliance Gospel Tabernacle where the meeting was held; Miss Doris Senk, executive secretary of American Youth for a Free World, and Eddie Fowrey, of Mobile, Ala., a member of the National Maritime Union, CIO.

"What most people don't know," Miss Smith said, "is that three other churches had been closed to us, one after the other, before Rev. Oliver let us meet in his church.

"The meeting had been arranged first to be held in a church on 16th Street, the biggest Negro church in Birmingham. But on Friday, the cops came and picked up the pastor, took him down to headquarters, read the law to him and told him he would be put in jail if the meeting were held at his church.

The Worker

"Then another minister agreed to let us use his church. The same thing happened.

"The third minister said he was determined to stand with the youth in their efforts for a better life. He said he was going to let us have his church and leave town before the police could get him. He went home to pick up a shirt and a pair of pajamas. The police got him as he was coming out of his house.

"Finally, Rev. Oliver, the young pastor of the Alliance Tabernacle, said we could meet in his church.

"'It's just a small church, but such as it is, it is open to those who are working for justice and brotherhood on earth. And I don't believe they would dare to come into the House of God to stop such a meeting,' he said.

"None of us believed they would really do it, even after all of this. It is a hard thing to believe it could happen in America, for armed officers to invade a church, break up a peaceful meeting and arrest the speakers.

"Miss Senk was on the platform talking when they came in. That was the afternoon session on Saturday. They didn't bother the morning session. Maybe they hadn't found out where it was being held, although they followed different people all the time we were in Birmingham.

"Anyhow, three carloads of cops came first. Then a patrol wagon came and some plainclothesmen. There was another red car that somebody said was a state highway patrol car. They piled into the church, filling up the back and down the aisles.

* * *

"DR. COX WAS TALKING, and one of them said: 'Just a minute!' Then one of the cops started telling us he could put us all in jail, but if everybody except the Negro delegates would leave, he would let them off and only take the white leaders.

"Dr. Dombrowski asked what would happen if they wanted to stay, and a cop said, 'Then we will place you under arrest.'

"They arrested Miss Senk, Dr. Dombrowski and Rev. Oliver and the NMU delegate and took them to jail. They thought that would break up the meeting, but we went right on with it. I don't think they ever intended to have to arrest Sen. Taylor.

"When Dr. Dombrowski and the others got out on bond, they came back to the church. The police said there had to be a 'physical barrier' and made us put up a door to separate the white delegates from the Negro delegates.

"I remember Dr. Dombrowski talking on the platform, with the tears running all down his face and on his shirt, about the need for people in the South to work for unity and the benefit of all the people who have been held down and kept poor so long.

"That's the thing I want to emphasize the most about this whole business. It wasn't just the police trying to enforce city ordinances. 'Bull' Connor himself has spoken at meetings with Negro people in Birmingham.

(Birmingham Police Commissioner Eugene Connor ordered the arrests.)

"They wanted to stop our meeting because young southern people, white and Negro, were getting together to work out a program for better conditions and opportunities.

* * *

BIRMINGHAM is a big steel company town, with over 50,000 white and Negro workers in the mines and steel mills of the area. The companies have made huge extra profits through the years by keeping them split up and not bargaining on their wages with full united strength. They didn't want any kind of meeting going on that would have Negro and white people getting together for their own good. It was too dangerous politically for people like 'Bull' Connor and the others who run the city for the big steel bosses.

"That's what has been going on all over the South, holding down the Negro and white people, too, and a lot of delegates at the meeting really saw what it means for the first time as a result of what happened.

"One young Alabama college girl who was a delegate got up and spoke, and said she had been planning all along to get an education so she could get out of Alabama and find a better chance somewhere else, but after what happened at the meeting she had made up her mind that she was going to stay in the South and spend her life fighting to end such conditions.

"After they made the arrests they still kept coming in and out of the church. Threats came in on the telephone. One call warned Louis Burnham (executive secretary of the SNYC) that the Klan was cruising for him in a car, and he had better get out of town fast.

"'There are four white men from Georgia in it and they've all got guns, and there's one Negro in it, and he's got a gun, too,' they said.

5-16-48

"But we set up what safety precautions we could and went on with the meeting.

* * *

"I GUESS EVERYBODY has read something about what happened when Sen. Taylor got there. The cops were lined up all in the street and around the church, and he marched up like a soldier. I'm telling you, it was good to see somebody like him, a candidate for Vice-President of the United States, with the guts to stand up for what was right. He acted against segregation when it took nerve, when most people do nothing but talk.

"A big cop stood blocking the door and arrested him when he tried to go in, even though he pointed out that he was against segregation and only wanted to announce to the delegates that he would not speak at a segregated meeting. The street was crowded with people, Negro and white, too, not delegates to the meeting, but just Birmingham people who had heard about what was going on. They were angry when Taylor was arrested. We took up $135 in small change in just a few minutes from people in the church and Birmingham people on the street, to help fight the thing.

"'The papers didn't tell, either, about the way 'Bull' Connor called in the Youth Congress people before the meeting was held, to threaten them and try to scare them out of having the meeting. That was on Thursday. He grilled Louis Burnham and one of the Youth Congress staff workers, and said all the speakers for the Youth Legislature were 'Communists from up North.'

"Dr. Dombrowski is a native southerner, but 'Bull' said his name proved he was a Russian.

Worker

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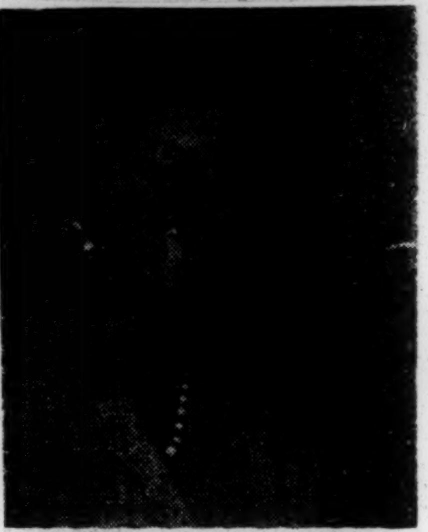
"OTHER SPEAKERS who were on the program besides the ones already named were Mr. Oliver Cox, chairman of the Department of Social Sciences at Tuskegee Institute; Mr. L. Marshall, editor of the **Macon World**; Mr. Percy Green, editor of the **Jackson Advocate**; Mr. Z. Alexander Looby, attorney, of Nashville, Tenn.; Mr. R. R. Pierce, principal of the Lowndes County Training School; Mrs. Andrew W. Simkins secretary of the NAACP at Columbia, S. C.; the Honorable J. H. Rainey, magistrate in Philadelphia; and Mr. J. F. Wilson, Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks.

"I was born in South Carolina myself, and have worked for the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. for about 15 years.

"The whole thing was a complete picture of fascism. It was just like Hitler's storm troopers, down to the last detail, using ignorant, brute terror to smash anything that might build up unity and opposition to the political and economic rule of the big monopoly companies.

"Well, they tried to break up our meeting, but they did not. They can't crush the people of America."

5-16-48



MISS MORANDA SMITH

Indicted on Charges of Violating Rights

Afro American

Deputy Also Held in Illegal Maltreatment of Nine Persons

Baltimore Md.

Sat. 11-27-48

MOBILE, Ala. — (NNPA) — Federal officers seized an Alabama sheriff and his deputy last Friday on charges of beating and maltreating nine colored persons in violation of their civil rights. Arrested were Sheriff Jenkins A. Hill of Clarke County and Deputy Willie R. Harrell, both 35 and from Grove Hill, 80 miles north of here.

They were indicted by a United States grand jury early last week under the existing Federal civil rights statutes which cover a number of constitutional guarantees under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

Arraigned before U.S. Commissioner Alex T. Howard, Hill and Harrell were released under $5,000 bond, each. Their trial probably will be set for January.

Illegal Beatings Charged

The indictment charged that the two officers, acting under "color of their office," committed "illegal assaults, beatings, whippings and other cruel maltreatment and physical abuse for the purpose of imposing illegal punishment," on the colored persons.

Some of the persons abused by the officers were under arrest on minor charges, said U.S. Attorney Percy Fountain. The others were reported not under arrest when they were beaten.

Sat 11-27-48

Fountain said the alleged abuses were committed between December, 1947, and June of this year.

The grand jury returned a joint indictment against both officers on six counts and three individual indictments.

Each count carries a maximum of one year in jail and $1000 fine on conviction.

Hill, a veteran of the last war who is serving his first term as sheriff, said he had nothing to say "to any newspapers."

The persons whose civil rights were alleged to have been violated were listed as George Dickinson, Robert Gordon, Ed Finsh, Mose Nicholson, Leo Williams, John Allen Jr., Johnnie J. Mitchell, Mattie Lee Poe and Edward L. Buck.

Sat 11-27-48

Educator Helpless As Cops Beat Son

Chicago Defender

Sat 12-11-48

MOBILE, Ala.—Dr. Benjamin E. Baker, prominent Alabama educator, was released in recorder's court here last week after being detained at a football game when he attempted to interfere with the police beating being administered to his son, Benjamin E. Baker, Jr.

Chicago Ill.

The young man was fined $100 and costs for allegedly disorderly conduct and $50 on a charge of resisting arrest. Young Baker objected to police use of race insults directed at him while he was a spectator at the game.

Protest Pine Bluff Police Brutality

The Call
Kansas City

PINE BLUFF, Ark.—(ANP)—Members of the Jefferson County NAACP chapter dispatched a letter to Mayor George Steed here last week asking that "full investigation" be made into acts of brutality perpetrated by local police against Negroes. The letter complaint, signed by Harold Flowers, president of the NAACP group, was drawn up at a meeting in Merrill high school, and named as victims of police brutailty Homer Morris, a bellhop, and Floyd Whitehead. 5-21-48

Morris was arrested in connection with a theft. He charged in his affidavit to the NAACP that he had been struck and beaten by city police, "one of whom he avers was the night chief, George Smith." Whitehead was arrested and beaten by police while a passenger in a city bus. Fri.

Crime Termed Most "Dastardly Thing"

Daily World

LITTLE ROCK—(ANP)—Though Federal Judge Trimble termed the shooting of a man who was watching a dice game when officers sought to break it up, as "one of the most dastardy crimes ever committed by men who pretend to be offiicers, "he nevertheless ruled for the defendants, in a suit against them for $15,000 damages. Victim of the shooting was a man named Smith, who was shot by an alleged deputy sheriff in Dallas county last June in an affray near Carthage.

The suit was filed against the National Surety corporation, New York and the U. S. Fidelity and Guaranty company, Baltimore, as bonding companies for Sheriff J. B. Atkinson, last October, charging that Smith was wounded as he was arrested for a misdemeanor and that he subsequently was subjected to brutal treatment and indignities and forced to sign a statement absolving the arresting officer of the blame. Atlanta, Ga.

Judge Trimble was reluctant to rule for the defendants, but he said that sufficient evidence to prove the offense was committed by an officially deputized officer was not given and that no higher court would sustain a verdict based on the evidence presented. Tues.

Smith was watching a dice game with a few other men when deputy sheriffs, accompained by Louis Sims and Jim Hollis, Carthage city marshal, sought to break it up. The latter two fired into the dice game. The wounded bystander testified that despite his abdominal gunshot wounds, he was beaten with a black jack and forced to walk three-quarters of a mile to Carthage. Later he was removed to University hospital where a doctor performed a four-hour operation and subsequently treated him for resultant complications. 4-20-48

Sheriff Atkinson, however, testified that he had not deputized Sims and Hollis. It was on the basis of this testimony that Judge Trimble refused to uphold the claim for damages.

Cafe Owner Beaten By White Cops Is Fined

The Defender
Chicago

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Although he presented evidence that he had been beaten by two white policemen, Willie Richardson, owner of a local cafe and beer parlor, was fined $57.50 on charges of carrying a gun, and another $57.50 on charges of buying stolen property, last week.

The incident bringing the case to trial occurred July 18, after Richardson had complained of the officers' arrest of a "drunk" at his inn the previous night. He had protested their entrance to his place of business, and he claimed that the arrested person had not been drunk.

On July 18 the policemen drove in front of his cafe and called him out to speak of the arrest. Nothing happened until The policemen "noticed" a revolver in his back pocket and arrested his for carrying the weapon. Sat 8-21-48

In describing the beating, Richardson said that White told him he was going to put an end for one and all to the cafe operator's complaints about his actions. Then, the owner said, the two policemen beat him. He lost two teeth, he said. As evidence, he presented two large photographs made the day after which showed proof of a beating.

The fine of $57.50 for receiving stolen property was slapped on Richardson early in July on a claim that he had bought stolen meat. His attorney, J. R. Booker, obtained a stay of judgment in this case.

Judge Harb hinted that someone should try and get Richardson's beer license revoked. His attorneys, Booker and Shepherd, said that State Revenue Commissioner Otho A. Cook assured them he would take no action until after the cases were finally concluded

Richardson returned to his cafe

County NAACP Group Protest Pine Bluff Brutality

PINE BLUFF, Ark.—(ANP)—Members of the Jefferson County NAACP chapter dispatched a letter to Mayor George Steed here last week asking that "full investigation" be made into acts of brutality perpetrated by local police against Negroes. The letter complaint, signed by Harold Flowers, president of the NAACP group, was drawn up at a meeting in Merrill High school, and named as victims of police brutality Homer Morris, a bellhop, and Floyd Whitehead.

Morris was arested in connection with a theift. He charged in his affidavit to the NAACP that he had been struck and beaten by city police "one of whom he avers was the night chief, George Smith." Whitehead was arrested and beaten by police while a passenger in a city bus.

Officers to describe Burns police killing tomorrow

Tribune
Los Angeles Calif. Sat. 9-11-48

Two special officers with whom the three Burns brothers fought before one of them, Herman, was beaten to death by four regular city police officers, will tell their version of the incident bfore the mass meeting, to be held by the NAACP tomorrow afternoon at Independent church. The meeting will get underway at 3:30 p. m.

Special Officers Clifford Davis and Willie Harrison will describe the fight they had, with Julius Burns as the aggressor, in the La Vada ballroom Aug. 22. After the fight, during which Davis struck Julius with his night stick, the three brothers resisted arrest by the city police, and Herman, a plasterer, was beaten to death by the officers with their night sticks when he attacked one.

Tomorrow's meeting is an outgrowth of community indignation over the killing, aroused by newspaper accounts of the fracas which described it as unprovoked. 9-11-48

Davis, who says he has been a special officer for five years, said he saw Herman hop on the back of one of the police officers, while the officer was trying to handcuff his brother, Julius. Sat

Another of the officers seized his night stick, saying, "Give me that club if you're not going to use it," and three or four officers hit Herman, knocking him off the officer's back," Davis said.

In an interview this week, the special officer said the fight with Julius began after he had tried to quiet him and prevent him from fighting during the dance. Julius was "one of those impossible persons," Davis said. The policeman said the enraged man picked up a table and was about to hit him with it, when he struck him with his night stick. Another brother, John, pulled a knife and started after officer Harrison, Davis said, but stopped when Davis drew his gun. The police were called by Harrison and the three brothers left. 9-11-48

Both special officers said the police had made no move other than to attempt to arrest the men on his complaint when the fighting, which ended in Herman's death, began.

Meanwhile, a "Justice for Burns Citizens Committee, was formed here this week by the Civil Rights Congress with headquarters at 307

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rican Association of University Women will be a major item on the agenda of the association when it meets in convention in Salem next Spring.

The question, bringing on whether AAUW is an educational or a social group, will be thrown open to the entire membership for discussion and vote

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HOTEL MANAGER BEATS AND KICKS LEROY JOHNSON

California Voice
San Francisco,
Calif.

Mr. Leroy Johnson's kindness to an elderly white man resulted in his being beat and kicked Saturday night by a San Francisco hotel manager and two San Francisco policemen, according to his statement made to Daphyne Anderson, office secretary of the Alameda County Branch NAACP.

Fri 5-14-48

Mr. Johnson told the NAACP that the old man asked that he take him home to a hotel about four blocks from the terminal. Johnson claimed that the man appeared to be sick or drunk and therefore he complied with his request. As he was taking leave of the hotel, a woman at the desk ordered him out and called her husband who immediately began fighting Mr. Johnson. Soon the police came and without questioning anyone present began beating him and kicked him several times. He says he was taken to jail Saturday night about 9. He was released Sunday without charge. Johnson further claims that the Sgt. on duty came in his cell and beat and kicked hiim again.

Fri 5-14-48

Miss Anderson says that bruises on his head are visible. Johnson claims internal injuries also.

Henry Johson, Jr., Executive Secretary, called Dr. Carlton Goodlett, President of the San Francisco NAACP, and requested that charges be filed with the Police Department and a conference arranged with the Police Commissioner.

Complete investigations are proceeding, and the NAACP will present the facts before the court in the near future.

Man Clubbed by Cop At Church Services

The Black Dispatch
Sat 8-20-48
Oklahoma City Okla.

LOS ANGELES — (ANP) — Ever heard of a person being clubbed by a policeman while listening to church services? Neither had Carl Gipson, 53-year-old businessman of Fort Worth, until he was made victim of an attack by a uniformed special policeman in St. Paul Baptist church here recently.

Gipson, proprietor of the Branaham and Son Funeral parlors in Fort Worth and owner of property in Los Angeles, attended St. Paul for Sunday services. As the auditorium was filled to overflowing, Gipson took a seat on a [illegible]ator which had just been vacated by a woman usher.

When the usher returned, he relinquished the seat to her, but when she left again, returned to the seat. However, a male usher ordered him up from the seat. Evidently not satisfied with Gipson's speed in obeying, the usher called John Smart, the special policeman who had been commissioned by the church to watch parked cars outside.

Gipson charges that as he stopped to pick up his hat, Smart smashed him over the head with a nightstick, cutting a gash that necessitated 10 stitches when Gipson was received in Georgia Street Receiving hospital. Pandemonium broke out when the crowd heard the commotion and saw the bleeding victim, with many persons uttering threats of violence against Smart.

Sat 8-20-48

Ironically, the Rev. John L. Branham, former Chicago minister and church official, suggested in a meeting held later that Gipson be prosecuted for "disturbing the peace in a house of worship." However, the Rev. George R. Garner, famous minister-singer who was present, urged that the matter be quashed.

Mrs. Pearl Smart, wife of the officer, reported that her husband had turned in his police commission following the incident, and also produced a lengthly statement vindicating him.

Police Brutality Flares; City Worker Beaten

Sun Reporter
Friday 12-31-48
San Francisco
California

James Harris, 4254 West Point Road, claims that he was severely beaten by a San Francisco police officer at the Potrero Station, Sunday night, Dec. 26, following his arrest for alledged drunkeness and resisting arrest. Harris, Municipal Railway employee, denies the charges. He was released on $75 bail Monday, Dec. 27. Harris claims that he was denied the medical attention he needed following the police attack.

In an interview with THE SUN-REPORTER, Harris said that he drove into a service station on Third St. near Pier 90 for gasoline. After waiting for several minutes he asked the attendant, who was talking to a policeman, for service. The attendant told him he would be out in a minute. Approximately five minutes later he again requested service whereupon the police officer interrupted and said "The man told you he would give you gas—If you don't get out of here I will throw you out." Mr. Harris said that the officer then followed him out to the car. When he protested that he had done no harm in asking for service.

Harris stated that the officer called him a "tough guy" and called the station wagon. At the station another officer is said to have used abusive language to Harris and then beat him senseless with blows to the head and body. He was advised that he would be treated by a physician when he reached the city jail, however, the victim says that he was never attended by a doctor. Harris is the father of three children.

Friday 12-31-48

Chicago Defender
Sat 12-11-48
Chicago Ill

GASHED HEAD and face are what she received, says Mrs. Katy Humdy, when two husky San Diego officers entered her establishment, the Tayes Cafe, La Jolla, Calif., and manhandled her because her "juke box was playing too loud."

13e 1948 D. C.

DC Police Test Nazi Plan

The Worker New York, N.Y.

Washington's police department which attained notoriety for its brutality against the city's Negro citizens moved rapidly toward greater disrepute as it pushed plans to establish a city ruled by the police club.

Sun. 5-23-48

Members of the Metropolitan police "subversive" squad have been testing the model police-state originated by Hitler in Nazi Germany and polished up for use in every city in the United States by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This model has been in operation for several months, the police admit. Its police-state machinery includes shadowing of hundreds of people suspected of liberal thoughts after a close check on the loyalty quizzes, the first step in the government's thought-control plan.

With the help of the FBI, homes have been searched, telephones tapped, mail opened and examined, dictaphones planted. Investigators have questioned neighbors of union members, members of progressive organizations, Communist Party members, and anyone else they have taken a mind to suspect.

The Worker

In some cases, investigators have questioned the actual suspect. Instead of asking questions, investigators have made threats. The intent was plainly to scare and browbeat, not to gather information.

Sun. 5-23-48

Under cover of the Mundt-Nixon bill hysteria, the FBI and police are now trying to close all Washington churches, labor halls and other auditoriums to progressive groups. Church boards and labor body executive boards have been warned not to rent meeting space to organizations coming to Washington to lobby Congress.

New York, N.Y.

For many years, the District of Columbia Communist Party led the fight to end police brutality against Negro residents. The campaign made Washington's residents aware of the brutal police measures practiced on innocent people, and, with the support of numerous other organizations, halted the police terrorism.

Sun.

William Taylor, Communist Party chairman in the district, said the latest efforts of the city police to intimidate Negro and white residents must be fought in much the same manner as the fight against police brutality.

5-23-48

"This plot to hang the shadow of the police club over the heads of every resident of Washington must be exposed and broken," Taylor said. "This pattern to create a police-state, fear-ridden city, first in Washington then in every American city, must be torn to shreds," he added.

13e 1948

D. C. (Negro)

Officer Claims Resistance Attack

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—A colored policeman, Private Jerome J. Jones, is accused of arresting a white man unjustly and beating him without cause.

Times 1-8-48

The arrested man, Peter J. Stathis, 25-year-old part-time tile-setter and railroad employee, said he would press charges against Jones.

Daily World 1-8-48

Jones said he struck Stathis when he resisted arrest. The incident occurred last Saturday night while Stathis was visiting Mrs. Mae Q. Davis and her 14-year-old daughter, Diane, at their home.

Daily World

According to Stathis, Jones knocked on the door and said there had been a complaint about trash that had been placed in front of the house. Stathis went outside with Diane to clean it up and, after an exchange of remarks with the officer. was placed under arrest.

Atlanta, Ga.
Times 1-8-48

When Stathis started up the stairs, Jones is alleged to have grabbed him, spun him around and hit him over the eye with a billy. Stathis is said to have bled profusely from the blow.

Judge Orders Probe of Police Brutality Charge

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois

Injuries Allegedly Sustained at Precinct Prevent Victim's Appearance in Court

Sat-11-27-48

MIAMI—A note from Jackson Memorial Hospital stating that Charles L. Hunter, 376-D N. W. 13th Ct., could not appear for trial at the appointed time because he had received two fractured arms and other injuries after he had been arrested and taken to the police precinct, so amazed City Judge Cecil C. Curry, that an investigation was ordered.

Patrolman Finch, who was the arresting officer, said that Hunter tried to escape and received the injuries when he was thrown to the floor. At Police headquarters, no statement was available on the investigation ordered by Police Chief Walter A. Headley.

Hunter was arrested at a carnival at N. W. 11th Ter., for the reckless display of firearms and assault with a deadly weapon. He had been in a dispute with an unindentified man who slipped away into the crowd when Finch appeared.

Once Suspended

Finch was involved in another case last May when a 16-year-old boy charged he was beaten with a knotted rope by Finch and Policeman H. E. Ross Jr.

Later, Finch was suspended from the force on charges of disobeying orders, conduct unbecoming an officer by frequenting bars and ridiculing another officer in public. He was later found guilty by City Manager O. P. Hart and drew a six-week suspension.

Sat 11-27-48

Four Policemen Face Court On Brutality Charge

Cleveland Herald
Cleveland Ohio

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.—(ANP)—The federal authorities have indicted four police officials here, on a charge of alleged mistreatment of Alton Fowler, held in jail for breaking and entering a Florida East Coast box car. The local criminal court judge will entertain a hearing on a motion filed by Fowler's attorney, asking that the defendant be dismissed.

Sa 13-11-48

Fowler's attorney also protested against the continued delay in bringing the case to trial. The state had accused Fowler of attempting to remove a state witness outside Florida to prevent him testifying.

The judge who will listen to arguments in the case this week, has promised to free the accused if it can be shown that he did not procure absence of the witness, it was disclosed.

Indict Four Police On Brutality Charge

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Federal authorities have indicted four police officials on a charge of mistreating Alton Fowler, Negro, who was jailed for breaking into a box car.

The state claims Fowler tried to get their witnesses out of Florida. The judge who will hear the case has promised to free Fowler if it can be shown that he did not attempt this.

Sat-13-11-48

13e 1948 General

The Law Doesn't Protect Negroes--From Cops

Mon 2-16-48

Isaac Woodard with his sister, Eunice Young

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

By John Hudson Jones

Mon. 2-16-48

American citizens are theoretically protected by the law against wanton police force and violence. But this doesn't apply to Negro citizens, for, during the past two years, a nation wide wave of vicious police attacks on Negro persons has gone unpunished.

13e Gen

For instance, in recent months, the Daily Worker alone has reported such incidents as in:

- **Edwardsville, Ill.,** August, 1946—Lucian J. Hopkins, 26, victim of four blackjack beatings by three deputy sheriffs.
- **Bateburg, S. C.,** February, 1946—Isaac Woodard, just discharged from Fort Benning, has his eyes gouged out by local police chief.
- **Kansas City,** January, 1946—Cab Calloway, band leader, assaulted by city cop acting as bouncer in local dance hall. 2-16-48
- **Birmingham, Ala.,** March, 1947.—Joseph Kirk, combat veteran loses eye after beating by two local cops.
- **Warrenton, N. C.,** June, 1947.—Willie G. Andrews, shot dead in car of local sheriff who "fired in the line of duty."
- **Rochester, N. Y.,** November, 1947.—Roland T. Price, slain by six cops who surrounded him after he was shortchanged in a local cafe. He had just visited the Freedom Train.

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THESE ARE JUST SIX out of dozens. So vicious have the attacks become that even the report of President Truman's Committee on Civil Rights declared: Mon.

"We must . . . report violent physical attacks by police officers on members of minority groups . . unwarranted arrests, unduly prolonged detention . . . and abuse of the search and seizure power."

New York state and city though, like Abou Ben Adhem, leads all the rest. Gov. Dewey winks at the murder of veterans like the Ferguson brothers, and his Nassau County District Attorney James N. Gehrig viciously prosecuted William J. Dessaure, savagely beaten in 1946 by four cops. 2-16-48

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BUT PITY New York's "finest"! Somebody is always assaulting or intimidating them. In fact if Mayor O'Dwyer doesn't do something quick, according to Commissioner Wallander, his "god-fearing, honest men" are going to become demoralized. Daily Worker

It's getting so a decent cop can't collect graft peacefully—particularly in Harlem. A wave of "citizen attacks" up there a few months ago almost depleted the force. And, adding insult to injury, Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, presented the Commish with a score of documented cases, some with photographs, proving it was the cops who beat up the Negroes! 2-16-48

The Commish was fighting mad. He roared to reporters, "it's a campaign of calumny . . . by certain individuals and groups . . . there is no justification whatsoever in charging racial bias or police brutality. . . ." New York, N.Y.

Here are a few of the "calumnies" Davis hurled at the cops:

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ON JULY 14, three Negro women had the nerve to protest when a taxi driver refused to take them to the Bronx. Patrolman Carmello Perconti was passing and heard the argument. Now Perconti is a 200-pounder and had a gun. Despite this, as he proceeded to enforce the law the three women set upon the poor fellow, so he later swore, with a knife, shoe, heels and fingernails. Mon. 2-16-48

So savagely did they beat him, Mrs. Stewart got a seven-stitch gash in her lip, a black eye and numerous bruises. When Perconti finally got them to the 23d Precinct, Mrs. Stewart kicked herself in the stomach, stole her own money, and her friend, Mrs. Helen Urquhart, threatened to tie herself to cell bars and choke on soap, to stop herself from crying. The third woman, Miss Leitha Griffin, was so bad she went and got Mrs. Stewart's husband, came back to the precinct and promptly arrested herself.

Needless to say, justice triumphed. Mrs. Stewart got 30 days for assault, and the others suspended sentences.

BUT THIS was really "calumnious." Harold Jones, a fruit peddler was short-changed by a Harlem merchant on the night of Feb. 11 1946. Along came two cops. Protecting free enterprise as cops are supposed to do, they began settling the argument—in favor of the merchant. Mon 2-16-48

To make a long story short, Jones became unruly, and began beating them. Forcing them into their squad car he made them proceed to the 155 St. viaduct. Underneath it he beat himself unconscious. Only then could the poor cops leave.

But to show you how vicious Jones really was, he dragged himself out into the street, where he again saw the same cops, stopped the car and took them back under the viaduct. Then he really worked himself over. Finally, as he was faint and bleeding like a stuck hog, they saw their chance and escaped.

Today, Jones can't work because of the self-inflicted injuries. His head is caved in and he says he has a constant headache. N.Y.

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SAMUEL T. SYMONETTE, a candy store owner, is the latest and worse case of a "cop fighter" assaulting police. He attacked four detectives, weighing 800 pounds together, but stayed in bed over a month recovering from minor injuries he received during the fight, on Oct. 18, 1947. Daily Worker

The four 35th Precinct cops said they were trying to arrest Symonette for taking numbers from a woman they never arrested. He jumped them as soon as they came into his store without a warrant, and fully armed with blackjacks and guns. Symonette jumped them immediately. When the fight was over his face was a bloody mass, his eyes were cut and his store was wrecked. He was charged with felonious assault. New York, N.Y.

Sure enough, Symonette, defended by the Civil Rights Congress, preferred assault charges against the cops. But that's all right, justice is blind and always triumphs. Especially if the judge that heard the evidence was a former high police official. Daily Worker

Symonette was fined $100 on a "numbers" charge. New York, N.Y.

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THE WHOLE TRUTH came out in court. The cops told identical tales. Identical, that is, until fiery Joseph Tauber began trying to embarrass them with questions like "What were you doing in this citizen's store without a search warrant?" and "Weren't you enraged when a Negro had the audacity to ask you for a warrant?" Mon.

Tauber got to making such "ridiculous" questions, the cops got rattled and told different stories several times. When one was on the stand, the others signalled answers, as is, of course, permissible in courts of law. A couple of times, their attorney, Corporation Counsel Frank J. Horan, threatened to ask Tauber outside, when he intimated the cops beat up Symonette because he was a Negro. 2-16-48

So after Magistrate Ambrose J. Haddock listened to everybody's story, including four eye-witnesses who swore they saw the cops beating Symonette, he refused to hold them.

"This is a persecution," Haddock ruled, "by persons who under the guise of anti-discrimination seem to be interested in breeding public distrust and dishonoring the department." Mon 2-16-48

And, in spite of this learned opinion, Councilman Davis still insisted that Negroes are victims of police brutality. In fact in a letter to Wallander he cited cases of white citizens being beaten and the cops were tried. "I would like to know why policemen are dealt with when they brutalize white citizens, but are given immunity . . . when they brutalize Negro citizens." 13e

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SO FAR the Mayor hasn't answered, but Wallander cleared up his attitude on Oct. 26, last. Voice choking with emotion he told a church audience his cops were only peace-loving fellows "who want to have a little home in Queens and raise a family in a righteous and religious way." Mon.

But if the Commish and Hizzoner think that's the end of it Councilman Davis doesn't. As a "last resort . . ." the Councilman wrote Mayor O'Dwyer in December, asking that he "speak out" against cop violence and the lack of proper punishment. If nothing happens, Davis promised a public meeting on Jan. 21: **"I shall take the matter to the proper state and federal authorities."** 2-16-48

Ask Dewey End Police Brutality

Daily Worker

The Harlem Committee to End Police Brutality yesterday a d Governor Dewey to name a special prosecutor here. Charging the "utter breakdown of local law enforcement agencies . . ." and the "denial of protection and of civil rights . . ." the Committee also asked President Truman's Committee on Civil Liberties to investigate acts of police violence in New York.

At a Hotel Theresa press conference Saturday, Guy R. Brewer, chairman of the committee charged the Rev. John H. Johnson, a police chaplain, with "sabotaging" investigation of cop-violence. Rev. Johnson heads a committee appointed Nov. 12, 1947, by Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander. He is Rector of St. Martins's Episcopal Church. Brewer, a former Democratic leader, was kicked in the face by a cop while inspecting polls in the 1945 election, and sustained a broken nose. New York, N.Y.

On Nov. 12 several leading citizens, including Brewer, met in Wallander's office to discuss the problem.

Brewer said that at the Nov. 12 meeting Councilman Benjamin J. Davis presented "such an unassailable and well-documented file of 26 cases," the commissioner was forced to act. Mon 2-16-48

Wallander named a committee which, besides Rev. Johnson, included Dr. C. B. Powell, publisher of the **Amsterdam News**; Edward N. Lewis, secretary of the New York Urban League; Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Dr. Dan W. Dodson, director of the Mayor's Committee on Unity.

Brewer charges that, under Johnson's influence, this committee has taken no action. His prepared statement quoted Dr. Powell as saying the committee was hamstrung by Johnson.

Police Charged With "Dark Ages Methods" In Obtaining Confession

Daily World - Fri 10-29-48

Atlanta Ga.

Life Impfisonment Given Plaintiff In Federal Case

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—(NNPA)—Three detectives were charged last Wednesday night with obtaining a confession from a 20-year old youth by "beatings, whipping and dark ages methods."

E. William Brown, attorney for Henry Waldo Williams, made the charges. Brown told a district court jury he expected them to free the youth after hearing the defense's case.

Williams was convicted by a jury in September and given life imprisonment for the rape of an 8-year old girl. He asked for a new trial and it was granted. The first jury voted 8 to 4 for the death penalty and W. N. Mounger, assistant county attorney, qualified Wednesday's jury for the extreme penalty.

Brown opened the defense case after battling unsuccessfully to have a wire recorded confession and a signed statement kept from the jury. He charged the statement was obtained after police beat Williams. The recording, he claimed, was a repetition of the other and "highly prejudicial."

Judge Van Meter overruled his objections.

Fri 10-29-48

PLAYED TO CROWD

The recorded confession was played to a tense, crowded courtroom last Wednesday night. In the recording Williams related kidnapping the child from her bed early July 28, taking her several blocks from her home and trying to rape her.

Brown called Robert E. Jones, 17-year old youth, to the stand as the first defense witness. Jones said he was in the city jail at the same time Williams was. He said Williams was taken from his cell for questioning at "all hours of the day and night."

The next witnesses was Odessa Mayfield. She said Williams, separated from his wife, was living with her at the time of the attack. She said he helped her support her five children.

The Mayfield woman said Williams "came home" between 12:20 and 1 a. m. the morning of the attack and could not have been involved.

2 Negro Policemen Face Assault, Battery Charges

The Constitution

Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 6-29-48

Warrants charging two Negro policemen with assault and battery were issued yesterday morning in the Criminal Division of the Civil Court of Fulton County.

The warrants were taken out by Willie J. Perdue, Negro, of 64 Butler Street, N. E., against Patrolmen John William Sanders, Jr., and Willard Strickland. The latter has been under suspension for about two weeks after a white policeman had reported him for drinking intoxicants in an Auburn Avenue, N. E., restaurant.

Perdue told court attaches he was stopped in front of his home June 5, by Sanders and Strickland, who accused him of drinking.

"I haven't had a drop—in fact, I just got off from work," Perdue said he told the Negro policemen.

"Oh, then you call us a liar," he said one of the Negro patrolmen replied. The Constitution

Both the Negro policemen began beating him, and knocked him to the ground, he related. They then took him to the Negro police precinct office in the Butler Street branch of the YMCA, and beat him again, Perdue said, before transferring him to police headquarters and charging him with being drunk. Atlanta, Ga.

Chief Herbert Jenkins, when informed of the warrants, said he would investigate the complaint before taking any action against Sanders. He pointed out that Strickland is already under suspension, and is scheduled to be arraigned before the Police Committee tomorrow night. 6-29-48

DEFENDER AND DIXIE WHITE EDITOR IN VERBAL FEUD OVER GA. POLICE BRUTALITY REPORT

(13e)

Constitution Says Chi Weekly Lied

HARPER EXPOSES ATLANTA FASCISM

CHICAGO — (ANP) — The Chicago Defender's executive editor and columnist, Lucius C. Harper, famous for his verbal battles with the late and unlamented Sen. Theodore Bilbo and Westbrook Pegler, has crossed swords with another foe down in Dixie.

Ralph McGill, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, is the latest target for Harper's sharp wit and caustic comment. A native of Georgia himself, Harper has been slugging it out with McGill through a rapid-fire exchange of correspondence for the past several weeks. To date, Harper's bombardment has McGill on the ropes, and he has not yet opened fire with his biggest guns.

It all started with a news story in the Chicago Defender—typical of many from the south—which told of the brutal treatment handed a Chicago motorist by Georgia police officials. Charles Alexander was arrested in East Point, Atlanta, handcuffed to a telephone pole and exposed for three hours to the jibes and ridicule of students from a nearby high school.

"It ain't so,' shouted McGill in an editorial in his paper. After "proving" it couldn't happen in Dixie, the white editor launched into a tirade against Negro newspapers and the type of advertising carried in their classified pages.

Ranted McGill, "The advertising columns of the Defender itself help stamp their Negro readers as ignorant, superstitious persons who believe in charms, gambling, love powders and so on." He called Alexander's sworn statement of what had happened in Georgia as "cheap lying heroics."

Harper countered these charges with some pointed statements in his nationally noted column, "Dustin' Off The News." Referring to the "financial lockout" of the Negro press by big white advertisers, Harper says "we must borrow a lesson from the white press. . . . We are only 43 years old, rather young in the business. I note that the Constitution is now 88 years old, a veteran, and yet it caters to spiritualists's ads and obesity 'cures.' Both have been condemned and labelled frauds by the leading religious authorities and recognized medical societies.

Then, withouot giving McGill time to catch his breath, the Chicago Defender's fighting executive editor lambasted the south's denial of education to Negro children and Atlanta's recent appointment of eight college-bred Negroes as police officers who can arrest only colored criminals and whose headquarters is the Negro YMCA.

"From one newspaperman to another," Harper continued, "from a native-born Georgian who still loves his state but destests its damnable conduct, to another Georgian: we may disagree and still remain friendly, patiently awaiting the 'great solution,' but fighting all the while for real democracy to include all races on equal terms—in Atlanta—not always in the faraway Balkans."

As a parting shot, Harper threw in, "I think we've already suffered enough world-wide embarrassment and bad advertisement, universally, because of the south's tomfoolery. It should stop 'kidding' itself."

Editor McGill's reply, whatever it may be, really ought to be a tight-lipped silence, for as "The Man" Bilbo learned to his dismay, Lucius C. Harper is undisputed champion when it comes to this type of slugging match.

'Get Negro GIs Out of South!'

Pittsburg Courier

Pittsburg Pa

(13e)

Eight Fort Benning (Ga.) Soldiers, Beaten By Civilian Cops, Receive Prison Sentences

Sat-12-11-48

By LEM GRAVES Jr.

(Special to The Courier)

WASHINGTON—Another campaign to get the United States Army to remove all Negro troops from hostile environments of Southern Army stations was launched here recently by several interested groups following investigation of civilian police brutality toward eight Negro soldiers in Columbus, Ga.

Eight Negro soldiers from Fort Benning, Ga., were last week convicted on "riot" and disorderly conduct charges in a civilian court in nearby Columbus and sentenced to one year on the Georgia chaingang on each count. One year of the aggregate two-year sentence was suspended. The cases were appealed by James Ray, NAACP attorney who represented the soldiers in Columbus. Sat-12-11-48

In an affidavit signed by one of the accused soldiers, it was revealed that they had been brutally beaten and made to suffer many indignities in Columbus after having been arrested on Nov. 5, by a riot squad of white civilian policemen. This soldier alleged that his head was cut, that he was gouged in the side repeatedly, that he was called offensive names, that his multiple wounds were neglected for some time, and that he was invited by officers to try to escape so they would have an excuse to shoot him down.

The soldier also stated that he was simply sitting in a Columbus tavern when civilian police raided the place without provocation. He charged that he and other soldiers were assaulted unmercifully by the civilian police. His affidavit suggests collusion between military police from Fort Benning and the local constabulary.

"NO JURISDICTION"

Meanwhile, Army officials in Washington, queried on the report, took the position that the Army has no jurisdiction over soldiers when they leave the camp area and can offer no protection for them against assault by civilian police. This has led many Washington leaders to demand that the Army remove Negro soldiers from areas where local community patterns permit physical abuses of Negroes by arresting authorities. Sat-12-11-48

The failure of Army military police to assist these Negro soldiers and the subsequent failure of the Army to provide any legal aid to the soldiers in their court trial is also criticized here.

The Army recently announced that Army inductees under the recently enacted selective service law would not be trained in deep Dixie States. This does not apply to soldiers who have finished basic training and who have been assigned to units.

The soldiers convicted last week were held on $750 cash bond. Those able to raise the bond were released and returned to their units at Fort Benning, pending appeal.

Stockade Guards Charged With Beating Prisoners

World Atlanta, Ga

Fri. 6-25-48

13e

AUGUSTA, Ga.—(SNS)—Charges of beating prisoners at the Richmond county stockade brought on indictments to three of the stockade guards Thursday by the county grand jury. World

The death of Ike Crawford, a Negro convict, whose eye was allegedly beaten out while a prisoner at the stockade stimulated an investigation by grand jury of prisoners treatment, although a coroner's jury reported natural causes resulting from a liver disease brought about Crawford's death. Atlanta

The three guards charged with beating prisoners are Alvin Jones. Davis Turner, and Horace Wingard Presently all three are under suspension. Fri. 6-25-48

Turner was accused of beating Crawford and eight other Negro convicts, Jones was accused with beating two Negro convicts, and Wingard with beating a white man.

Women Brutally Assaulted

13e

Mrs Weltha Green, mother of four children at 638 West 40th. Street Lane claims a White Policeman invaded her home Saturday Morning, August 28, at 10:30, slapped her face twice. She was sick in bed. Her four little children looked on helplessly.

The Herald

Thur 9-2-48

According to a statement from Mrs. Green, she is under the doctor's care. Dr. Iseman visited her about six days ago and prescribed medicine with advice to stay in bed. On Saturday morning about 10:30 A.M. two policemen in a two-tone automobile invaded her home and asked her where was the whiskey she was selling? Mrs. Green said she told the officers that she did not have any whiskey nor did she sell whiskey. Mrs. Green said the officers said they could smell the whiskey. Then she told the officers if they could smell the whiskey they should be able to find it. The sick woman told the policemen they were wrong, she did not have any whiskey in her home. One officer replied "I suppose you call me a D—m lair" and at the same time slapped her face. Mrs. Green said she asked the officer to let her get up and put her clothes on and he could arrest her on suspicion rather than have him slap her as sick as she was. The officer slapped her again and questioned her fifteen year old niece who witnessed the whole affair. The officer asked the niece if she had a boy friends and did he give her money? After which the fficer stepped from Mrs. Green's bedroom into her parlor and played he piano while the little children cried for mercy on their mother's side, who was slapped twice by his race baiting policeman. Mrs. Green said her nephew came home after the officers left and telephoned headquarters to find out who the officers were and was told they would investigate the matter. Mrs. Green said a representative from the police headquarters came out to see her and told her they did not find out who the officers were, but they were still investigating. Mrs. Green also said that a man by the name of Rufus Rivers visited her home and told her if she could't identify the officers there was nothing anyone could do about it.

Savannah, Ga

Thur 9-2-48

Guards Indicted; Beat Convicts?

Atlanta Constitution

AUGUSTA, June 24—(AP)—Three Richmond County stockade guards were indicted by a county grand jury today on charges of beating prisoners. Fri. - 6-25-48

The death of a Negro convict, Ike Crawford, brought the grand jury investigation. Charges were made that Crawford had an eye beaten out at the stockade. A coroner's jury held that he died of natural causes—a liver disease.

The three guards accused in today's indictments are Davis Turner, Alvin Jones and Horace Wingard. All are under suspension. Turner was accused of beating Crawford and eight other Negro convicts, Jones with beating two Negro convicts, and Wingard with beating a white man.

13e 1948

Illinois

COP BLINDS CHAUFFUER
FEDERAL PROBE SOUGHT

3/5/48

New York, N. Y., March 4--The United States Department of Justice has been asked by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to investigate charges that a Rock Island, Illinois, police officer struck a Negro truck driver with a blackjack, permanently blinding him in one eye. The truck driver, James Simpson, had been arrested and charged with negligent driving on November 23 last following a collision. N. AACP - N. Y. - Fri 3-5,

Simpson alleges he was attacked in his cell by police officer James Swift, who beat him across the head with a blackjack and struck him in the left eye, as a result of which he lost his sight in that eye. He was left for hours without medical attention. When he was finally removed to a hospital physicians discovered that there was no possibility of restoring his vision.

Fri 3-5-48

Chauffeur Blinded By Officer; Probe Sought

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Wed 3-1?-48

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The United States Department of Justice has been asked by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to investigate the charges that a Rock Island, Illinois police officer struck a Negro truck driver with a blackjack, permanently blinding him in one eye. The truck driver, James Simpson, had been arrested and charged wthh negligent driving on November 23 last following a collision.

Wed 3-10-48

Simpson alleges he was attacked in his cell by police officer James Swift, who beat him across the head with a blackjack and struck him in the left eye, as a result of which he lost his sight in that eye. He was left for hours without medical attention. When he was finally removed to a hospital physicians discovered that there was no possibility of restoring his vision.

JURY INDICTS POLICE FOR BLINDING NEGRO

Calif. Eagle
13e
Fri 10-22-48

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 14—Accused of beating and blinding a Negro truck driver, while imprisoned in a jail cell, a white policeman was this week indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting here. The indictment followed protest by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People demanding an investigation by the U. S. Department of Justice

San Francisco Calif.

James Simpson, the victim, told the Grand Jury that he had been blinded in one eye and severely beaten by James Swift in the Rock Island, Ill., prison on the night of November 23, 1947. He had been arrested by Rock Island police when he became involved in an accident along the highway between Rock Island and Moline. Swift is reported to have beaten the truck driver in the mistaken belief that he was a man who had recently had a run-in with another Rock Island policeman.

Fri 10-22-48

The Tri-Cities branch of the NAACP reported the assault to the national office which, through Franklin H. Williams, assistant counsel, referred it to the Department of Justice insisting upon investigation and prosecution.

TRUCK DRIVER BLINDED, FEDERAL PROBE SOUGHT

[illegible]
[illegible]
Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK—The U. S. Department of Justice has been asked by the NAACP to investigate charges that a Rock Island (Ill.) police officer struck a truck driver with a blackjack, blinding him in one eye.

13e

Supt. Watters Does Not Reply To Complaint

New Orleans, La

Informer & Sentinel

NEW ORLEANS—Still suffering from injuries allegedly inflicted by a police officer who had taken her to the Sixth Precinct police station on January 21, Mrs Mary Alex, 57, of 9423 Stroelitz street was further subjected to ill treatment at the hand of public official when she was brought to trial before Judge Harold Moore in Recorders Court on charges of "disturbing the peace and resisting arrest" last Thursday.

Although the case was dismissed, the trial, in the opinion of observers was farcial, and Mrs. Alex was humiliated and given a "reprimand" in the court room, by Judge Moore.

Sat. 2-7-48

The police officers, E. Landry and H. Pangurene, who were accused by Mrs. Alex of mistreating her, gave their versions of the incident in court, stating that when they asked Mrs. Alex where she was going, she replied, "None of your G— D— business."

Informer and Sentinel

After listening to the officers the judge turned on the frightened woman and without listening to her statement, asked her what she meant by talking to an officer like that, then quickly told her the case was dismissed and "Get up there in Jefferson parish with Clancy where you belong·

At press time, Robert Delahoussaye, president of the New Orleans NAACP, said Superintendent Watters had not replied to the complaint and had not indicated whether or not the incident would be investigated.

Sat. 2-7-48

Superintendent Watters' failure to reply by Monday, was compared with the unusual celerity he employed in suspending Captain Henry Clark. night supervisor of police, for an incident involving another policeman early Friday.

Informer & Sentinel

On Monday, Mrs. Alex was still suffering from the injuries and under care of Charity hospital physicians. New Orleans, La.

Ill Prisoner Dies in Police Station Without Medical Aid

The Courier Sat 8-7-48

Pittsburgh Pa.

NEW ORLEANS—Dan Wicker, 35, of 1723 St. Claude Avenue and a native of Bogalusa, La., died in the Third Precinct Police Station July 26 without medical aid although it was publicly known for two days that he was ill, mentally and physically, police records revealed.

Wicker died at 10:30 o'clock Monday morning in a strait jacket strapped to a roller table in the police precinct station. He had been strapped there since Saturday, July 24, when he was arrested for disturbing the peace.

SUBDUED WITH HOSE

Police records disclosed that Wicker allegedly attempted to break out of the Fifth Precinct station Saturday afternoon and appeared to have gone berserk. In the melee which followed, three policemen, Sgt. John Fedele, Patrolmen Fred Hauck and George Vogt, were injured. Also injured was Floyd W. Redman, 59, of 1529 North Claiborne Avenue, who was being placed in the cell from which Wicker was being transferred. Fedele and Hauck received fractured fingers and Vogt and Redman contusions of the face.

The police emergency squad and a fire truck were rushed to the Fifth Precinct and powerful stream from a fire hose was played on Wicker for thirty minutes.

The Courier

When he was exhausted from the impact of the water, he was overpowered by police and placed in the straitjacket.

STRAPPED ON TABLE

A Charity Hospital interne gave him a sedative Saturday night and recommended that he be hospitalized immediately. Wicker was removed to Charity Hospital in an ambulance. However, officals said they could not keep him because they had no facilities for violent cases. The police department offered to furnish a special police guard. This offer was refusced.

Sat 8-7-48

Police then tried to have him admitted into City Hospital for Mental Diseases. They learned that a commitment from the coroner's office was necessary. Assistant Parish Coroner Richard [illegible] was quoted as saying Wicker could not be admitted to the city hospital, that his home was in Bogalusa and he had come to New Orleans only a few days before. Efforts to contact Coroner C. Grenes Cole were in vain.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Wicker,, strapped on a table, was taken back to the Fifth Precinct station. The roller table would not fit through the passageways so he was removed to the Third Precinct station.

Sat 8-7-48

WARNED OF DEATH

A Charity Hospital interne was called to the station Sunday morning. He said if Wicker were not hospitalized he might die. Wicker lay on the table in the Third Precinct all day and night Sunday.

Monday, Superintendent of Police A. A. Watters called Dr. Arthur Bernhard, Charity Hospital superintendent, telling him the story and saying the police department could not take responsibility for Wicker who, by that time, was unconscious.

Dr. Bernhards said the patient would be admitted if the police would bring him there.

Sat 8-7-48

The police doctor went to the Third Precinct and examined Wicker at 10:30 Monday morning.

Wicker was dead.

Catholic Priest Scores Police For Brutality

Journal & Guide

Norfolk Va.

Sat. 5-15-48

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(Special) —Scoring brutality by law enforcement officials and calling for full recognition of civil rights by all policemen, the Rev. Vincent J. O'Connell, S. M., warned officers of their great responsibilities in today's troubled world.

Fr. O'Connell spoke at the final session of the Louisiana Peace Officers Association convention. He is general chairman of the Catholic Committee of the South, an interracial organiation of clergymen and laymen.

13e

"The attitude of enforcement officers toward Negroes and their rights must be a just attitude if we are to have justice prevailing anywhere in the world," he said. "The demand for civil rights must never be identified with Communism," he asserted.

UTTERS WARNING

5-15-48

Warning against deceits of Communism, the CCS leader said: "With the specious argument that Communism was a mere political party, like any other political party, the Communists were able to deceive fair minded people, folks who were willing to grant any man freedom of his political beliefs.

"But Communism is not a political party. Communism has as its declared goal a completely Communist world and its leaders always have said that to obtain world Communism they would have to destroy religion and overthrow all governments which resisted their world-wide program," the clergyman declared.

Telling the peace officers that they had nothing to fear from Communism in organized labor, Fr. O'Connell said: "There is no group in Louisiana that has done more to expose Communists and bring them out into the open than organized labor.

Policeman Indicted In Trusty's Death

13e

Journal & Guide

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(ANP)— A former Louisiana state patrolman was indicted by the U. S. grand jury on charges of violating the civil rights statute in connection with the fatal beating of Charles D. Richardson 36, a trusty a tBaton Rouge in June.

The indictment charged that the former white officer "unlawfully, wilfully and feloniously, deprived the prisoner of the right not to be deprived of his life without due process of law."

SUCCUMBS IN JAIL AWAITING DOCTOR

Times Picayune

Police Report Previous Efforts to Get Medical Aid

New Orleans, La.

Dan Wicker, Negro, [illegible], Bogalusa, died Monday in the Third Precinct station house, strapped in a straitjacket to a roller table while waiting for medical aid. A Charity hospital ambulance was en route.

Tues. 7-27-48

Dr. C. Grenes Cole, Orleans parish coroner, said death was due to concussion and contusions of the brain, multiple lacerations of the scalp and physical exhaustion.

Wicker reportedly went berserk Saturday night and tried to escape from the Fifth Precinct station house where he was held on charges of disturbing the peace.

Four persons, including three policemen, were injured before Wicker was subdued.

Twice since then police tried unsuccessfully to procure medical aid for Wicker, according to police reports thrown open by Police Superintendent A. A. Watters.

7-27-48

He was taken to Charity hospital Saturday night, but attaches there said the hospital had no facilities for handling violent cases.

On Sunday, police tried to have Wicker admitted to the City Mental Diseases hospital for treatment. There they were told they could not take him because of the injuries and because he was not of New Orleans.

The coroner's office was contacted by police, too. Police were told commitment to the mental institution would have to come from Dr. Cole, who could not be reached Sunday.

The ambulance en route to Wicker's assistance Monday was dispatched by Dr. Robert Bernhard, Charity hospital superintendent, after Watters told him that police could not take responsibility for the man.

Wicker had in the meantime been taken to the Third Precinct, because the roller table would not fit in the passageways at the Fifth Precinct. When the ambulance had arrived, Wicker was dead.

7-27-48

Watters said his death continues to emphasize the need for a central lockup where prisoners could receive immediate and adequate medical attention."

Dr. Cole said that the death was unclassified pending investigation.

Tussle Over Jim Crow Screen Nets Woman Police Beating

Chicago Defender
Chicago Illinois
Jul 12 1948
Jul-17-1948

NEW ORLEANS—The Jim Crow screen on a St. Claude street car brought trouble and a police beating to her, Mrs. Martha Thibodeaux of 1011 Dumaine st., declared last week.

Mrs. Thibodeaux said she boarded the car about eight o'clock in the evening and headed for the rear behind the Jim Crow screen. The section was crowded, and the section for whites in front, was practically empty, she declared.

Mrs. Thibodeaux lifted the screen and asked Miss Rose Bayhi, who was sitting in the last seat reserved for whites to move forward, so she could put the screen on another seat, according to her story.

Instead, the white woman said "put that screen down and shut your black mouth," Mrs. Thibodeaux related. Miss Bayhi attempted to take the screen from her, and there was a tussle, Mrs. Thibodeaux said. The screen accidentally struck her.

At that point the conductor summoned police and five cars of officers responded. They arrested Mrs. Thibodeaux and rushed her off to the Fifth Precinct staiton.

There one punched her in the stomach with his fist and two others struck her with belts, Mrs. Thibodeaux said. She was held in jail until past 11 o'clock the following day, when her husband secured her release, she stated. Mrs. Thibodeaux told her story in tears.

Progressives Fight Police Brutality

(13e) Mass. The Worker

New York, N.Y. Prin.

BOSTON.—Progressives in Boston's South End, the heaviest point of concentration of the Negro population, have earned their spurs as active organizers of community activity to stop police brutality.

4-18-48

Events of last Christmas galvanized the progressives. On that day of traditional peace and goodwill, a young Negro couple, Willie and Bessie Banks, had a horrifying experience which made them overnight symbols of a militant fight against police brutality in the South End and Roxbury districts.

While walking home from a supper on Christmas night, Mrs. Banks suddenly suffered an attack of indigestion. The intense pain made her scream. As Mr. Banks rushed for a taxi, a policeman ran past him and ordered Mrs. Banks to stop the noise, but the suffering woman could not answer him. Whereupon the officer seized her and hammered her head against the pavement, knocking out her front teeth. Then he attacked Mr. Banks by punching him in the eyes and smashing his glasses. Over six feet tall, weighing 220 pounds, the policeman, who reeked of liquor, proceeded to threaten Mr. Banks with a gun. Prin. 4-18-48

At the hospital, to which the patrol wagon took the couple, policemen grilled Mrs. Banks in a vain effort to force a confession from her that the guilty officer had defended her when he found her husband beating her! The Worker

Despite overwhelming evidence, a Roxbury lower court whitewashed the policeman and convicted the couple of assault and battery on an officer. Significantly, the judge who delivered the decision urged that the case should not be appealed to a higher court. However, that was where the progressives stepped into the breach. New York, N.Y.

On February 23 a protest mass meeting was held at Fourth Methodist Church. The main speaker was Rev. Ben Richardson, secretary of the Harlem Wallace-for-President Committee, who urged that the community unite under progressive leadership in a fight for its rights. Mr. Banks, the victim of police brutality, gave a moving account of his experience. New York, N.Y.

On February 24 Oliver S. Allen, newly elected vice-chairman of the Progressive Party, argued the case before a Superior Court jury without accepting a fee for his services as attorney. A major victory was won when Mr. and Mrs. Banks were acquitted of the criminal conviction which the lower court had imposed upon them. Prin. 4-18-48

World War II Vet Gets Jaw Fractured As Cops Launch Reign Of Terror

The Defender

(13e) Mass.

Sat 8-7-48

BOSTON — Police brutality reached an unexpected all time high here recently with the brutal beating of a World War II veteran, owner of his own taxicab, Curtis Drinkard who is at present in West Roxbury Veterans' hospital suffering an infected jaw.

Chicago, Ill.

Highlight of what appeared to be a wave of police terror, events leading up to the beating were described by Drinkard in a sworn statement upon which the NAACP will take legal action against city policemen.

Vet Tells Story

Drinkard said that on one of his typical nights off from cab duty, he attended a ball game, dropped in to visit his girl friend and chatted for a time with his brothers who are visiting from New Jersey. Then he hailed a cab driver friend and asked permission to ride home. He was sitting in the front seat waiting for his friend to come out of a drug store when a police officer appeared and demanded that he get out of the car.

"Don't you see two white girls sitting in the car?"

"I got out of the cab," Drinkard said, "but told the policeman I was unaware that anyone other than myself was in it."

The statement then records that the policeman said:

"Get out of here and go home, you black ——— before I lock you up."

Asks Policeman's Name

Drinkard said he said "Huh" and hailed another cab the driver of which he knew. He asked this driver to pull over to the curb where the policeman stood and there Drinkard asked the uniformed man for his name and number. In return he asked for the cab driver's identification. When told it was in the glove compartment of Drinkard's own cab, the policeman yanked the veteran from the cab and said: "You're under arrest for not having your identification."

He added: "I'll teach you to say 'huh' when a police officer tells you to do something and not to take a police officer's name and number."

Beaten At Station

He then took Drinkard to the front of a nearby cafe and called the station wagon. All the way he is alleged to have cursed the veteran.

At the station Drinkard was searched. In the process he tried to protect his girl friend's watch and $50 which were in his shirt pocket. When he tried a second time, a crashing blow landed on his jaw. Then he was slapped, punched in the stomach and dragged into a cell.

His mouth dripping blood, he called for medical assistance. Instead an officer threw two pails of cold water on him. Without the aid of his glasses, he was urged to sign a paper which he could not read.

Later a probation officer arrived and promised him prompt release. Meantime, a doctor arrived, took him to a guard room, looked at his mouth and said it ought to be x-rayed. He was released a couple of hours later on a charge of drunkeness.

A Veteran's Administration x-ray then revealed the broken jaw which was becoming infected.

Joining NAACP in a legal fight for Drinkard will be the Mt. Zion Masonic lodge of which he is a member.

Make Wholesale Arrests

Seen as a part of a police terror reign, Drinkard's beating was concurrent with arrest of three alleged criminals in what the Roxbury-South End area termed a general clean-up in which passerby, women included, were thrown into police prowl cars and taken to headquarters.

Police in cars patrolled the area from Hammond to Dartmouth sts. shouting at passersby:

"It's time to go home."

Sat 8-7-48

Wholesale arrests did draw into the net Alonzo Kelly, an ex-convict; Willie Richardson, deserter from the Coast Guard; Herbert Gibson and William Ward, 18. The first two were held for $25,000 bail and the letter two $15,000 each for supposed participation in a $550 Roxbury holdup that led to the shooting of a policeman.

Fleeing the scene of the robbery, a shoe store, the men are charged with shooting Police Officer Charles J. Sergie four times. Sergie is recovering.

Veterans Group Cites Acts Against Minority

13e

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga. Sat. 3-6-48

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— A formal protest against the "pro-fascist wave terror" against Negroes in Mississippi with authenticated incidents listed was sent to Atty General Tom Clark this week by the United Negro and Allieded Veterans of America.

In this letter signed by George B. Murphy Jr., national commander of the UNACA, gestapo-like actions of Mississippi law officers were described, and several of many brutal acts against Negroes were also listed.

Gov. Fielding Wright of Mississippi, the police and newspapers were all accused by the UNACA of being factors in the terror reign in that state-the governor through "the development of organized police-gestapo organization" and the newspapers by not printing the facts, the communication declared.

INCIDENTS CITED

Among the incidents cited in the UNACA message were:

Daily World

Feb. 21, beating of a Negro veteran, J. V. Williams, arrested for "drunkenness" by policemen after hauling him out of a Negro Cafe, the threatening of a crowd of Negroes with guns and running them off the street.

Atlanta, Ga.

Feb. 13, beating of one armed veterans, Leroy McGowan, by 17 policemen. Sat. 3-6-48

Although a large crowd gathered at the Feb. 21 incident and downtown traffic was blocked, local newspapers printed nothing about it.

The letter closed with the following plea to the attorney general:

"We Negro Veterans call upon you to investigate the following eyewitness report of the criminal terror in Mississippi and to bring to justice the perpetrators of these crimes and those in public office who have subverted American democracy to give aid and comfort to these criminals."

Secret Police In Mississippi Are On Way Out

Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky

Jackson, Miss., March 2 (AP)—The Senate passed a bill today to kill Mississippi's secret police force.

13e

There was no opposition or discussion. The measure now goes to the House. Quick passage is expected.

The force, known as the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation, was set up in November at the request of Governor Fielding Wright. Opponents called it a "Gestapo."

Wed. 3-3-48

The Governor had authority to appoint policemen without disclosing their identity. The officers could make arrests without warrants. The bureau was created as the aftermath of widespread disorders in connection with a bus-company strike. Wright later said he made only three appointments.

Beat Youth To Pulp In Street Orgy

The Defender

13e

Sat 2-21-48

By JOHN LeFLORE

JACKSON, Miss. —A maimed youth, ~~mobbed~~ by the "law" here late Friday is near the point of death in a local hospital.

If the hapless one-armed Clay McGowan, 22, dies from the brutality inflicted by an estimated 16 policemen it will be another of the numerous lynchings excluded

The Jackson police guidently from the records.

looking for Negro prey, spotted McGowan as he came out of a shop near Farish and Amite st. The youth staggered slightly, either from illness or intoxicants as he walked down the street. He made the mistake of trying to run when the cops yelled, "Hey, N. . . . gr, halt there!"

Beaten To Pulp

It was the signal for them to leap upon him with fists and blackjacks. Other "brave" minions of the law, seemingly appeared from nowhere joined in the mob orgy. Soon McGowan was down. He fell face downward. His face and body became a mass of bruised flesh and blood, as it lay in the traffic lane.

Terrified Negroes, who witnessed the sadistic act by the "law" wanted to help the youth; they wanted to remove him from a pool of his own blood; they wanted to hold his head in the arms of one of their number while others would wipe away bloody grime from his face with a wet towel; they wanted to call an ambulance—but they dared not.

Sat 2-21-48

Big Negro-hating officers, brandishing guns, menaced the Negroes and drove them away from the scene.

Skull Fractured

A white spectator showed a spark of "kindness." At least he went to the helpless form and extended a foot to the body to turn the face upwards to see if the youth was dead. "I'd do that much even for a dog," his facial expression seemed to state.

This kind of mob violence will not count as an "official" lynching. It will be classified along another type of "unofficial" lynching scheme, such as having one or two men kill a Negro, while the others remain at a safe distance from the scene.

Cops Lead Klan As Lynchers of Negroes

The Worker New York

By Abner W. Berry

Negro lynchings have dropped out of the headlines, but unpublicized atrocities — and death — continue to be dealt to Negroes by blue-coated cops throughout the country.

Highlighting the past week's performance of "muss 'em up" antics was the arrest and beating of Miss Bessie Bryant, a Negro woman living at 120 W. 139 St., by Harlem plainclothes cops. Miss Bryant was arguing with an unidentified woman at the corner of 133 St. and Eighth Ave., early Sunday morning, accroding to eye witnesses, when a detective jumped from a car and started kicking her. A crowd gathered and protested, whereupon the cop hauled Miss Bryant to the car. The crowd followed the car to the station, meeting Miss Bryant coming out as they went in to lodge a protest with the commanding officer. Sun. 7-4-48

★

INSIDE THE STATION the delegation was told to "get out" or they's be arrested. A cop is reported to have threatened to "bash our (the protestants') heads in." One young man continued to protest and was hit on the jaw and arrested. Meantime Miss Bryant was rearrested on her way home. She and the young man were rushed to court, appearing in Week-End Court before Magistrate Strong. The man was fined $10. Miss Bryant, at this writing is serving a 10-day jail sentence.

Miss Bryant's case is being handled now by the Civil Rights Congress. Even with 10 days in jail, it could be reasoned, she is better off than the pregnant mother who, two weeks ago in Brooklyn was felled by a cops fists—an act which brought on premature labor and shock. In the same action her brother-in-law was beaten by the same cop. The brotner-in-law required several stitches in his lip and suffered a sprained back and neck.

★

WOMEN, it is being proven, in the total war now waged by the cops, are almost as often as men victims of police violence. This new wrinkle of the lynch technique is said to be due to the Negro woman's militancy in the heightened fight now being waged for Negro freedom.

Civil Rights groups, the office of Councilman Benjamin J. Davis and others interested in fighting what is called "northern style lynching," have agreed that:

- **Most recent acts of violence against Negroes are committed by uniformed police.**
- **In those cases where the hooded Klan engages in terrorist acts, such as invading the Girl Scout Camp in Alabama and burning a cross in front of a Negro's home in New Jersey, there is a strong likelihood that many Klan members also are connected with the police.** 7-4-48
- **The steady spread of death due to Jimcrow-minded cops and the constant stream of police brutality victims in Negro communities—North and South—places the issue of police brutality squarely in the political arena.**
- **It is a matter for law enforcement officers, from the Attorney General of the United States down to the local commissioners and captains to be prodded on without cease. Like lynching, it is felt, police brutality has to have a place in the platforms of political parties claiming an interest in preserving the Constitution and protecting the rights of the individual.**

IN NEW YORK CITY Councilman Davis has almost singlehandedly led a campaign to have cops punished who are charged with nearly **50 acts of violence against Negroes.** New York

"It is my contention," Davis said, "that Commissioner Arthur H. Wallander, by his inaction in the cases I've presented to him and by his openly anti-Negro statements, such as his reference to a Negro suspect as a 'beast,' has proven his unfitness to be in office. He should be removed."

After the Negro people, the labor movement—strikers—has been the next in line for "muss 'em up" treatment. The Wall Street strikers furnish one example. But this orgy of violence by the New York police force against labor was bested by the Kansas City, Kan., police last April when they broke up a picket line of packinghouse workers and sustained their sadistic pitch by literally gutting the interior of their meeting hall.

NUMEROUS FIERY CROSSES have been burned throughout the South since the advent of President Truman's civil rights proposals. But not one of the guilty persons have been arrested.

In Birmingham, Ala., during the period from April 15 to June 15, last, six Negroes have been shot and killed by the police. One of the victims was an honor graduate of his high school, who was beaten until unconscious while held in a car in the police garage and then shot. In Detroit 15-year-old Leon Mosley was beaten so badly that he couldn't walk by patrolmen Louis Melasie and John Boland and then shot to death.

The increased violence by the police against Negroes and labor; the air of absolute power assumed by more than one city police head (Wallander, in New York, and Eugene "Bull" Conner, in Birmingham), and the air of hysteria in which the police operate—all of this has raised a question in the minds of many progressives:

"Are we witnessing the sneak-development of an anti-democratic 'Gestapo' getting their training in conducting torture chambers and directing the liquidation of so-called 'alien races'?"

It is not a pretty question to be posed in America.

The answer is in the hands of the people who have always shown concern for democracy and the security and sovereignty of the individual through action.

Police Beatings Arouse Buffalo N. Y. Citizens

Journal Guide

BUFFALO, N. Y. — Citizens of Buffalo, aroused over the alleged brutality of local police carried their protests to the National Branch of the NAACP, last week.

In a letter sent to the National body, the legal committee of the Buffalo Branch, stated that police officers on Aug. 29, brutally beat two young Negro women.

Victims of the alleged assualt were Misses Catherine and Anna Charthone.

Norfolk Va.

According to information released in the letter sent to the NAACP one of the sisters, Catherine, was involved in a street altercation with another woman, when the other sister, Anna, attempted to break up the fight. Police arriving on the scene immediately began to assault the sisters with night sticks it is charged.

Catherine was allegedly beaten about the body, kicked, and dragged to a police car by officers and placed face down on the floor. One officer is said to have placed a foot on her neck.

Anna Charthone, the second victim, was said to have been beaten so badly in her cell that she required hospitalization.

BOTH FINED

Both sisters were later fined in a Magistrates Court for disturbing the peace and resisting an officer. Anna drew a fine of $25 and Catherine was fined $50 and placed on probation.

The Buffalo Branch of the NAACP is raising money in an effort to have the officers involved prosecuted. The local branch's legal committee composed of John H. Coston, J. Edgar Westbrook, and Julian J. E. Evans is spearheading the fight to break up police brutality in the city.

Mother Seeks NAACP Counsel To Defend Son, Victim Of Police Brutality

New York City

New York, N. Y.

Mrs. Sultana Anderson, of 269 West 113th street, has retained the Legal Redress Committee of the New Yodk Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 2272 Seventh avenue, to take the necessary legal steps for her son, Burnell Anderson, who she says was assaulted and rendered unconscious for two days by a policeman near 280-282 West 113th street on July 15.

According to Mrs. Anderson, her son and a group of men were playing checkers on West 113th street, when about 6 p. m., a policeman in the company of two women approached the group. One of the women pointed to Burrell Anderson and stated "That's him," whereupon the policeman called Anderson. When Anderson came within reach, his mother charged, the policeman without warning and without any conversation immediately struck him, once on the neck with his hand, and on his back with his night stick.

Anderson asked the policeman why he was being struck, whereupon, the policeman is said to have answered, "I'll show you," and thereupon struck him on tse left side of his sead with his nightstick. Anderson was knocked unconscious, in which state he remained for two days. He is now in Bellevue Hospital with a fractured skull. Sat. 7-31-48

At no time during the incident did her son disobey the orders of the policeman nor put his hand in his pocket nor have a weapon nor instrument visible, nor manifest a threatening or menacing manner, Mrs. Anderson charged. She also said that at the time of the assault by the policeman he was not under arrest, nor accused of any crime, nor offered any explanation. 7-31-48

Arnold Bowmar, 200 West 135th street, of the Legal Redress Committee of the NAACP Branch, has been issigned the case by Jawn A. Sandifer, president of the branch.

CRC Defends Negro Vet Beaten, Jailed by Cops

Daily Worker

The New York Civil Rights Congress announced yesterday it will defend Anthony Hardison, 25, Negro youth arrested and beaten by Brooklyn police, and held without bail for 27 days. The details of the cop violence and CRC's defense plans were discussed by Attorney Alfred L. Tanz, CRC counsel at a press conference in his office, 52 Broadway.

New York N.Y.

Hardison, a veteran, was released on a writ of habeas corpus, on Nov. 27, from the Raymond Street jail, after the CRC intervened in the case. Tanz declared yesterday, Supreme Court Judge John MacCrate set his bail at $1,500 and agreed there was no basis for the police holding Hardison.

Hardison is a student of radio and television at Manhattan Technical Institute. He lives with his wife Adele, 19, at 551 Warren St.

Hardison was returning from the home of his mother, Mrs. Ethel Hardison, 562 Lexington Ave., about 1:30 a.m., Oct. 31, where he had gone to do some minor household repairs. He carried a pair of pliers and a small hammer. As he stood at the corner of Gates and Summer Aves., a police car pulled up, a cop jumped out and asked what he was doing, and began searching him.

Finding Hardison's radio tools the cop began beating him with his nightstick, and arrested him. Subsequently the Grand Jury failed to indict him.

Fri 12-3-48

Tanz declared yesterday the CRC would ask the court to dismiss the charges against Hardison, and announced that a Hardison Defense Committee had been formed in the veteran's neighborhood.

Cop Has Record of Beating Negroes

Daily Worker

New York, New York

George V. Killoran, a Harlem detective ordered to pay $700 damages in City Court last week for beating up Leo "Snub" Mosley, Negro trombonist, is the same cop who with another detective beat up a Negro seaman and his Dutch shipmate in December, 1947, it was learned yesterday.

Killoran was ordered to pay the damages after a trial before Judge James J. Brady. Mosely's attorney, John B. Pharr, Jr., said Killoran, as of yesterday, had not yet paid up.

Thur. 12-23-48

Mosely was beaten on March 26 in the Shangri-La Club, in Astoria, Queens, where he was playing. Killoran, it is alleged, became incensed when a woman in his party admired the musician. The cop followed Mosely into the men's room and attacked him. Mosely lost three teeth, and sustained severe head and face bruises requiring hospitalization.

When Killoran and Detective Thomas A. Twomey last year had attacked Randolph Sutherland, 32, and Antonie Van Kouteren, 19, seamen, Judge Roland Sala, in Washington Heights Court, found the victims guilty of "disorderly conduct" and gave them suspended sentences. Killoran and Twomey claimed that because the seamen were walking with Sutherland's fiance, a Puerto Rican woman, they suspected them of having committed a crime complained of by a man they never produced in court.

Thur. 12-23-48

Killoran was defended last week in City Court by Moses Polakoff, who also defended him and Twomey last year. Polakoff is the onetime lawyer for Charles "Lucky" Luciano, whiteslaver and narcotics gangster, now in Italy.

13e 1948

New York

Lynching is Lynching —Even If It's Done by a N. Y. Cop

By Abner W. Berry 13e Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Wed. 1-7-48

IS NEW YORK STATE on the way to adopting the Taney Doctrine toward its Negro citizens? That might seem a strange question to ask in 1948, almost 100 years from the time when Chief Justice Taney rendered the Dred Scott decision—"A Negro has no rights a white man is bound to respect." But the record reveals that a present-day version of Taney's outlook prevails in the Empire State. We've changed it to read: A Negro has no rights a white policeman is bound to respect.

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis has run up against a stone wall of official indifference regarding the 26 cases of Negroes attacked by New York City policemen. In hundreds of cases where Negroes have charged the police with brutal treatment, not one cop has been disciplined.

Magistrate Ambrose J. Haddock, after hearing days of testimony against the four detectives accused of beating Samuel T. Symonette, freed the defendants, but lectured their Negro victim on manners. The detectives, who had beaten Symonette so badly that he required a month's hospitalization, were "carrying out their duty and the amount of force used was reasonable and necessary," the judge said.

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AND NOW PATROLMAN JOSEPH ROMEIKA of Freeport, L. I., comes into the news again. Romeika was twice exonerated in the killing of two Negroes on Feb. 5, 1946, once by a grand jury appointed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, and again by two Dewey-appointed investigators. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

In the early morning of Feb. 5, 1946, four Feguson brothers—Charles, Richard, Alfonso and Joseph—objected to service received at the Terminal Tea Room in the Freeport bus station and walked out after an argument. Romeika stopped them and, after kicking Charles, ordered them to face a brick wall with their hands over their heads. One of the men's hands dropped and the shooting started. Charles, a veteran, was dropped by a bullet through the chest. Another bullet passed through Joe's shoulder and entered Alfonso's head right between the eyes. Wed. 1-7-48

If you can overlook the fact that two human lives were snuffed out and families left without breadwinners, the shooting can be admired. Very efficient, indeed. Three hits with two bullets at four targets.

Last week Romeika was awarded a medal for having won the Christmas shooting match held by Freeport policemen.

•

TO MANY who supported the movement to punish the Ferguson slaying, Romeika was a common killer. Romeika was not one whit different from any one of the 28 lynchers who went on trial last year in Greenville, S. C. But like these lynchers, Romeika was cleared. He did not come to trial by a jury of his peers. He was exonerated by his superiors, the elected officials of his community and state.

The line between Greenville and Freeport (and New York) has grown thin indeed. Daily Worker New York, N.Y.

Police brutality—when it is practiced against a Negro—has been adjudged "duty," and the cold-blooded killing of two unarmed Negroes has been whitewashed: The killer is now a minor hero. Wed. 1-7-48

The fight against lynching everywhere, the concern for democracy in New York demands that this double-standard of justice cease. New York officials cannot hide their indifference behind the fact that law enforcement officers are the ones who do the beating and killing. We cannot delude ourselves that "the majesty of justice" resides in our "constables"—a reactionary delusion satirized by Anatole France.

LAG DENIED IN INQUIRY ON POLICE 'BRUTALITY'

The Times New York, N.Y. Sun. 2-15-48

The Rev. John H. Johnson, Police Department chaplain and chairman of a special committee that has been looking into charges of brutality made by Negro organizations against the Police Department, denied yesterday, that his committee's delay in reporting was due to an effort to choke off investigations. 13e N.Y.

When informed that the Citizens Committee to End Police Brutality, through Guy R. Brewer, former Tammany leader in lower Washington Heights, had accused him of "nonfeasance" and a desire to shield the police, Mr. Johnson called the charges fantastic. He added that the committee had met recently and was working out a way to deal with the charges.

The committee, which Mr. Johnson first summoned last November, includes Walter F. White of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Dr. C. B. Powell, State Boxing Commissioner; Edward H. Lewis of the Harlem Urban League, and Dr. Dan Dodson of the Mayor's Committee for Unity. Mr. Johnson, who is also pastor of St. Martin's Protestant Episcopal Church, 230 Lenox Avenue, said that he sought to bring Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander closer to community leaders. The Times

To be "scrupulously fair and just and to take every caution possible to obtain a constructive program," he said that the committee has moved slowly. Its last conference was held about ten days ago with all committee members present, he asserted. The members are not all of one mind, he added, "hence we cannot go as fast as Mr. Brewer wants us to move."

Mr Brewer enlarged his statement to accuse Mr. Johnson of being a "dictator." Including his personal charges against police officers alleged to have beaten him in the course of a brawl in a political club eighteen months ago, he said that he had compiled for his committee, with the aid of Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, a file of twenty-six cases of "alleged police brutality which Mr. Johnson refused to hear." New York, N.Y. Sun. 2-15-48

NEW GROUP TO ADVISE POLICE ON HARLEM

The Times New York, N.Y.

The committee appointed in November by Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander to review cases of alleged police brutality in Harlem has been disbanded and a new group formed in its place to serve as an "advisory committee" to the commissioner on Harlem affairs. 13e N.Y.

This was announced last night by Mr. Wallander, who said the original committee had met with him yesterday and that it had agreed to disband because the cases it was studying has been "disposed of by the courts in the usual manner and by due process of law." Sat. 3-6-48

The new committee, the commissioner said, will concern itself with seven different aspects of community life. Among these are the improvement of the welfare of the Harlem population, needy cases in which the police can give immediate assistance, "conditions or situations affecting the enforcement of the law," "conditions or situations which might result in racial tension," and matters concerning police welfare.

Members of the committee include the Rev. John H. Johnson, Negro police chaplain; Dr. Daniel Dodson, member of the Mayor's Committee on Unity; Madison Jones of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the Urban League, and Dr. C. B. Powell, publisher.

Nightstick Law Starts at the Top

13e N.Y. Daily Worker Mon. 3-8-48

New York, N.Y.

By Joseph North

(Second of a Series)

To get to the bottom of nightstick law in New York you should start at the top. The office of the city's No. 1 policeman, Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander is a good place to begin. When the top-ranking authority orders his underlings to "muss-'em-up," what can you expect of the bluecoat on the beat?

Didn't the Commissioner tell his subordinates "to give them the treatment, you know what I mean." The cops may not be the acme of wisdom, but a word to them is sufficient. And so the clubs flail away and savagery against our Negro citizens is at a premium.

Consider the recent case of Samuel T. Symonette, Negro shopkeeper. Mr. Wallander's bland response to it is ample indictment. Mr. Symonette is alive today only by a miracle. The three plainclothesmen who invaded his store without a search warrant belabored him with the butts of their revolvers, breaking soda water bottles over his head, horrified the scores of neighbors who witnessed the atrocity. 3-8-48

POLICE ALIBI

The police excused their action with the claim that they were searching for policy slips in the store. The Commissioner excused the police, with a phrase that the cops "used no more force than they had to." Daily Worker

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis described these words as the "most callous statement ever issued by the police department." He challenged the fitness of the Commissioner to remain in office after that whitewash. New York, N.Y.

Needless to say, the ordinary Negro worker gets the worst of the deal shuffled by an authority of this stamp. The innumerable cases I looked into revealed that. But the flailing nightstick makes no distinction. It descends on the head of the prominent as well as the anonymous—so long as that head belongs to a citizen whose skin is darker than Mr. Wallander's.

NIGHT-STICK LAW 3-8-48

I cite you the case of Guy R. Brewer, a leading citizen in New York's Negro community. What happened to him can happen to any Negro citizen and illustrates that night-stick law is a fundamental trait of a setup which regards the entire Negro people—13,000,000 in all—as inferior, and hence, fair prey to any run-of-the-mill cop.

Although Mr. Brewer was assaulted by a policeman, beaten into semi-consciousness, kicked in the face until his nose was broken, his assailant — Patrolman Thomas O'Keefe, Badge No. 7267 —has never received a public reprimand, let alone dismissal. After witnessing the scandalous efforts of his superiors to shield him, I daresay he is ready for a repeat performance any day. The next time it might be YOU for savagery is no crime to Commissioner Wallander, and savagery is contageous.

I cite the Brewer case to show that the orders from headquarters are not directed merely at the small percentage of gamblers, policy men or underworld characters — these orders strike at the Negro people as a whole.

It happens every day to such men as James Slappy, of 7 E. 101 St., a

New York, N.Y.

radio mechanic who has suffered irreparable damage to his health from a clubbing and whose assailant walks his beat, unreprimanded, unchallenged, coldly eyeing. Mr. Slappy every time he meets him on the street. And ready, no doubt, to go to it again any time the the occasion offers.

But to return to Mr. Brewer. By no stretch of their active imagination can the police associate him with the 'corner loafers" and others of that type whom they claim is their concern. Mr. Brewer is known to thousands in New York as a public-spirited citizen. He came here some 22 years ago from Atlanta where he studied economics at Moorehouse College.

He has, with distinction, served in the Department of Welfare, the New York State Tax Commission, the State Unemployment Insurance Office and the War Manpower Commission. He is a churchman, belongs to the NAACP, the Urban League, the Elks and is chairman of the board of directors of Inter-Community Civic League of Queens. Nothing fly-by-night about him.

Several years ago he was elected Democratic leader of the 12th A. D., north, and during elections, in 1945, he entered a poll in pursuance of his duties. There his attention was attracted to a citizen who was protesting the refusal of the election official to register him. Mr. Brewer thereupon championed this citizen's right to be registered. Officer O'Keefe became so incensed with Mr. Brewer that he seized him roughly by the shoulder and placed him under arrest. Mon. 3-8-48

ASSAULTED BY POLICE

Mr. Brewer, court testimony revealed later, offered no resistance and said "**Let's go to the station house.**" When they reached the vestibule of the school in which the polling place was located, the policeman knocked Mr. Brewer down, kicked him in the face, fractured his nose and lacerated his cheek. 3-8-48

"After I was assaulted," Mr. Brewer told me, "the policeman arrested me—they always arrest the man they assault. That's a cardinal principle with the cops."

After the arrest they kept postponing the case until they got the right judge, Magistrate Harry Andrews, who found Mr. Brewer "guilty" of disorderly conduct.

The Police Department Legal Bureau appeared for Mr. Brewer's assailant in Magistrate's Court. This is part of the pattern: the department takes ample care of its own, forever defending them against the public.

Appeals to Commissioner Wallander did no good; appeals to Mayor O'Dwyer did no better. Well, Mr Brewer did get as far as receiving one note from the Mayor's office. It read: Daily Worker

Dear Mr. Brewer:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of Jan. 29, addressed to Mayor O'Dwyer.

The contents of your communication will be brought to the Mayor's attention."

And that's the satisfaction he got from Mayor O'Dwyer. Mon. 3-8-48

GETS RUNAROUND

Many prominent citizens intervened in Mr. Brewer's behalf. Among them were Councilman Davis, Congressman Powell and the NAACP. But Commissioner Wallander was stone deaf. He had a policeman to defend, and the plaintiff was a Negro.. So there was a royal runaround for over two years.

Finally Mr. Brewer submitted his case to a grand jury and only this month—after more than two years—did the Court of Special Sessions unanimously reverse the conviction of this citizen on the disorderly conduct charge.

Mr. Brewer has, after interminable effort, won the satisfaction of judicial confirmation that he was totally innocent, but that doesn't remove the policemen from the force. The verdict is, in fact, public censure of Commissioner Wallander and Mayor O'Dwyer for their scandalous disregard of Mr. Brewer's case (even though the judges did not mention that). 3-8-48

But the reversal does not restore Mr. Brewer's broken bones. And, as he says, "Every citizen, high or low, **white or black, should be immune to being kicked and maimed. To kick a man lying prostrate on** his back is a terrible thing. He may recover from the injuries received but the indignity leaves a scar on his soul that can never be erased."

Mr. Brewer is now chairman of the Citizen's Committee to End Police Brutality and is a leading force in the Negro community for Henry Wallace.

"No one," he told me, "enjoys immunity from the SS tactics of the Gestapo police. Caucasian police officers consider Negroes fit prey from Mississippi to New York.".

That, in brief, is the case of Mr. Brewer. Commissioner Wallander contends his stringent "techniques" are solely to clean Harlem of shady characters. How, then, can he explain his brutal disregard of Mr. Brewer's pleas? How can he defend his defense of Patrolman O'Keefe who kicks you in the head when you're down. The policeman's badge number is 7267, Mr. Wallander, in case you want to lift it.

Mon. **SYMONETTE** 3-8-48
Victim of Police

Davis Blasts Whitewash Of Harlem Cop Brutality

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. Wed. 3-10-48

The five-man Harlem Committee appointed by Police Commissioner Wallander to review charges of police brutality against Negroes has "disgracefully betrayed the struggle of their own people," Manhattan Communist Councilman Benjamin J. Davis asserted yesterday. Davis denounced the committee, headed by the Rev. John H. Johnson, official Chaplain of the Police Department, for outdoing the Commissioner himself in whitewashing 26 "wanton cases of police violence against Negro citizens." Wed. 3-10-48

Stung by charges of Davis, who has a resolution in the City Council (No. 533) urging a full investigation into beatings and terrorism by cops in Harlem, Wallander in October, 1947, appointed a temporary body to review charges of police brutality in connection with three specific cases. On March 6 he announced

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Not a Penny More

4-26-48

Dear Sir:

I am writing in response to Mr. Dropkin's letter of Apr. 22, asking your support for a 25-cent-per-hour increase (that's $600 per year) for the Police Dept. P.M.

I've never been in jail, never got a ticket, never been entangled with the law in any way, so no personal animnus prompts the following observations. New York, N.Y.

Instead of giving his former henchmen a raise why doesn't our esteemed Mayor O'Dwyer do something about the million-dollar "take" from bookies that the little boys in blue pocket each year.

The memory of New York citizens are very short — they forget too quickly the innumerable instances of police brutality, of innocent men who get clubbed and beaten, of lawful pickets with broken skulls, of unarmed men shot in the back. And there are thousands of cases of prejudice and bigotry that never get in the papers. Do you know what happens (particularly to Negroes) in the back rooms of police precincts? Do you remember the investigation a few years ago during the LaGuardia regime, that revealed a monstrous percentage of policemen as active Christian Fronters? Mon. 4-26-48

Give teachers a raise, give social workers a raise, give clerks and street cleaners a raise, give all City employes a higher salary, but not in the name of reason and fairness a single penny more for the foul corrupt and reprehensible majority that constitute New York's "finest"!

New York A. C. McKittrick

Boy, 8, Threatened After Mother Makes Protest To Police

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK—(NNP) The 8-year old son of Mrs. Sara P. Speaks, an attorney, has been threatened with harm as a result of charges of alleged corruption in the New York police force made by her, it was revealed last Saturday.

Fri. 5-21-48

Mrs. Speaks, who said her life was threatened three times a week ago, agreed to accept a police bodyguard after she was alleged informed by a friend that he had overheard two men plotting to do harm to her son. Previously, she had refused a bodyguard.

It was also learned that Ted Poston, a reporter who first broke the story of Mrs. Speaks' charges, was questioned four hours at police headquarters in an effort to determine where he had obtained the information on which his story was based. Poston's story gave amounts New York numbers writers are alleged to have been paying for "police protection" and exposed shakedown methods allegedly used by police.

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. 6-14-48

POLICE COMMISSIONER Arthur W. Wallander, commander of the 25,000 "New York's finest," should be given the Order of the Nightshirt Medal and requested to resign. He has more than earned the "right" to this distinction of a sort. For more than a week Wallander's department fed the press lurid and race-inciting plugs about an "Ape Man" roving the streets of Washington Heights. 'Ape" and Negro were devilishly mixed so as to inflame neighbor against neighbor and cover any use of "necessary force in making (an) Arrest," to use the Commissioner's own words.

The tragic death of Mrs. Frieda Frank in Washington Heights on June 2, allegedly at the hands of an unknown assailant, was a shocking occurrence. But this did not give the Police Department and Commissioner Wallander license to dig into the smear-barrel of streamlined hate-dispeners to connect a Negro with an ape. And then when the so-called "Ape- Man" turned out last Wednesday to be a slight-built, well-dressed 20-year-old Negro, Wallander stuck to his Negro-animal comparisons.

He personally visited the prisoner uptown and remarked dramatically to the press: "This is the culmination of good police work. It's another indication that the men are on their toes. **It takes another beast out of circulation."**

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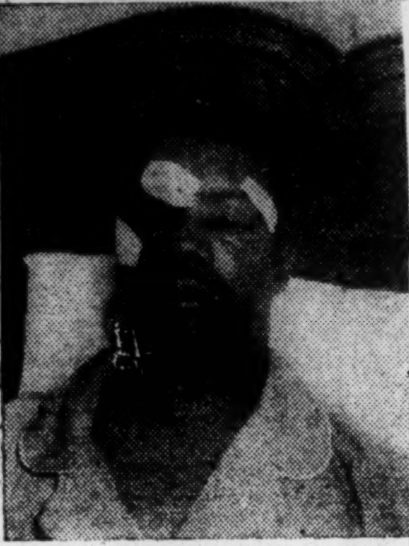
"APE MAN," "BEAST," said the commissioner—and the newspapers carry the pictures of the pipe-smoking Negro to accompany the story. Isn't it logical, then, for the unsuspecting to condone the handling of such persons with gun and club? For, after all, beasts aren't hunted in dress suits, and animal justice isn't tempered with the mercy of humanity. It's the law of the tooth and the fang. And Wallanders' men have learned the lesson well. So well, in fact, that the appelation, "beast," would well fit many of them.

Daily Worker

I leave it up to Commissioner Wallander to decide, in the light of his publicly stated distaste for "beasts" in human form, in which category he would place the following persons:

New York, N.Y.

Was it man or beast, dressed in the uniform of a police patrolman and answering to the name of Carnello Perconti, who beat Mrs. Josie Stewart, a Negro mother, on July 14, 1946, cutting her upper lip and causing numerous contusions with kicks and clubbing? Wkr. 6-14-48



SYMONETTE
Cops' Victim

On what level of the animal kingdom would you place the blue-coated cop No. 7267, answering to the name of Thomas O'Keefe, who in October, 1945, beat Guy R. Brewer into semi-consciousness, breaking his nose, lacerating his cheek and finishing him off with a few well-placed kicks?

Were the unnamed cops animal or human who dragged the Negro businessman, Roy Willliams, from a car at 126 St. and Amsterdam Ave. on Sept. 2, 1947, taking him to the 30th Precinct where his ankle was broken and his body filled with bruises and contusions? Are the same cops classified differently for having roughed up Williams' pregnant wife to the point of bringing on premature birth? 6-14-48

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YOU MAY REMEMBER the name of Samuel T. Symonette, Mr. Commissioner. Detectives Emanuel Berson, James McCarthy and Luigi Cardile last Oct. 18 entered Symonette's candy store in W. 143 St., beating him with guns, blackjacks and pistols so badly that he had to be hospitalized for a month. Symonette, a Negro, suffered multiple contusions, a near skull fracture, and internal hemorrhages. Was that a human or animal act?

ABOUT POLICE BRUTALITY, the Commissioner said last October when pressed: "There may be times when the force used is excessive, but who are we to say if we are not there. The public should reserve judgment pending an investigation of each case."

When it came to maligning the Negroes the Commissioner did did not practice the same charity he pleaded for his force. He was quick to label an alleged Negro criminal a "beast," an "Ape Man." There was no investigation, no trial. No proof was offered other than the word of the same police who have been responsible for over 28 cases of police brutality against Negro citizens recently.

Daily Worker

Wallander has pleaded that there is nothing "racial" about his policies, and asked the Negroes from the pulpit of a Harlem church last April 22 to cooperate with the police. But the record, written partly in Negro blood, says otherwise. Three white persons have been victims of police brutality. In each instance the guilty policemen have been punished. In the long list of brutalities against Negro citizens the guilty cops have not been punished.

New York, N.Y.

MORE THAN 28 Negro victims of Wallander's police were present when "the force used (was) excessive." They've got the marks to show for it. Almost singlehandedly Councilman Benjamin J. Davis has spoken for them and fought to have their attackers brought to the bar of justice.

Now it is more than the fight against police brutality. Wallander has shown by his recent actions that his own nightshirt mentality requires an even greater effort. To paraphrase an old adage: The rotten fish of police brutality stinks from the head.

How much longer do we have to stand the stench? 6-14-48

Harlemite Seeks NAACP Aid For Police Brutality

New York Age
New York, N.Y.
7-17-48

Mrs. Lena Thomas, 309 West 148th street has appealed to the New York Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to take the necesary action against the Police Departmeent and the City of New York for alleged unwarranted vicious beating she received from a policeman on May 15, 1948 at a store on 116th street and Lenox avenue, Mrs. Thomas has retained Jawn A. Sandifer, branch attorney, who has instituted suit against the City of New York for $10,000.

Charles A. Levy, executive secretary of the New York Branch of th N. A. C. P. stated that, "Because of the increasing number of complaints of police brutality against colored citizens of Harlem, which is developing an inflamatory condition in Harlem, a special emergent Branch Membership Meeting is being called on July 21st at the Y. W. C. A. 75 West 137th street at 8:30 p. m. which will be followed by a mass meeting at Walker Memorial Baptist Church, 116th street between Lenox and 5th avenues on July 23, at 8 p. m., Rev. J. W. Tate, pastor. Mrs. Thomas and other victims of police brutality will tell their stories directly to the people at this mass meeting."

Mr. Levy further stated that 'The New York Branch N. A. A. C. P. has no record of any punishment being administered to the offending policemen in any of the cases of police brutality brought to the attention of the Police Department by the branch".

Brass-Knuckle Cop Mauls Negro and Pregnant Wife

The Worker
Sun. 6-20-48

By Abner W. Berry

A plainclothes cop with brass-knuckled fists stepped between a Brooklyn Negro, 29-year-old Stepny Moses, his wife, Tressie Mae, and their planned So. Carolina vacation.

Moses, a steel worker who lives with his wife and three children at 1601 East End Avenue, was to have left last Friday for Bishopville, S. C., to spend a few weeks with his father. Their children—Jessie Mae, 8, Stepny, Jr., 7, and Janie Belle, 4, were to have been left with Mrs. Moses mother, Mrs. Irene Rogers, who lives a short two blocks away at 48 Liberty St.

"We had to take some things from our house," Mrs. Moses told me this week in her home, "to my mother's for safekeeping while we were away. We didn't have enough bags to hold all of it so we waited until most people would be off the street at night to take it over."

New York

MRS. CLARA ALEXANDER, a sister of Mrs. Moses lives on the floor under her at the East End Avenue address with her husband, Matthew, 26, and three small children. They helped the Moses couple with the bundles, on the night of June 7. Mrs. Alexander is eight months pregnant.

"Just as we crossed St. Marks and were walking toward Liberty on Watkins, two white men got out of a car and asked my husband what he was carrying in the bundles," Mrs. Moses said. Moses, according to her account, told them "None of your business," and stopped to pick his bundle which he had put down momentarily when accosted by the unidentified men.

"As my husband bent to pick up his bundle and move on, one of the men struck him back of the head. He fell. The man grabbed him by the front of his coat like this (showing a left hand grabbing coal lapels) and dragged him up. Then the man started beating my husband about the face and head. The other man held a gun on the three of us. But we couldn't help screaming. 6-20-48

"My sister stepped up to the man who had beat my husband and asked, 'Why are you killing him?' and the man knocked her down. Then they started away. But my uncle came up. He had heard us screaming. He asked the men whether they were going to take my husband to the hospital."

★

IT WAS ONLY THEN, both women told me, that the men identified themselves verbally as being officers of the law. The uncle, Robert Myers, then demanded that the men take the wounded man, thought by his wife to be dead, to the Liberty Street Police Station, Precinct 73, to prove their identity. It was then that they aroused young Moses, then sprawled bleeding from the head and mouth, and took the four to the station.

Mrs. Alexander then spoke up. **"They took me and my husband up stairs. One cop pulled out his pistol and held it on my husband and said that if I didn't sign a paper saying that I had bumped into him and fell he would shoot my husband. I was scared. So I signed it. Then they let us go."**

Meanwhile, downstairs Moses was being booked for assault and ordered taken to the prison ward of Kings County Hospital.

"I forgot to tell you," Mrs. Moses put in, "when my uncle asked them to prove they were officers they told him that they thought we were stealing."

"Yes," Mrs. Alexander thought out loud, "after I was knocked down, the man who did it said that I was lucky, he said that he could have shot just as easily and then claimed that it was an accident. And later on at the station when they showed him that I was pregnant he said 'How was I to know that she was pregnant. She scratched me and bit my arm'."

★

ONE OF THE POLICEMEN is said to have claimed that Moses tried to cut him with a knife. Mrs. Moses denies the possibility of this by pointing to the fact that Moses had both arms and both hands occupied with bundles.

The bundles were left on the street after the arrest and Mrs. Rogers, the mother, was forced to pick them up by uniformed policemen from the Liberty Street Station.

6-20-44

Dr. M. S. Kaplan, the Moses' physician, reports that Moses suffered lumbarsacral (back) sprain, a sprained neck and lacerations of the lip and scalp. Three stitches were taken in his upper lip. Mrs. Alexander suffered premature labor and shock, but was able to prevent a miscarriage.

Moses is free on $500 bail. His trial is scheduled for Thursday morning in Special Sessions Kings County Court.

"I guess that just about stops our vacation this year," Mrs. Moses said.

Cop Clubs Woman In Harlem; Angry Thousands Protest

Daily Worker

New York

(13C) 7.4

By John Hudson Jones

The Harlem police beating of a Negro woman Saturday night at 116 St. and ~~Lenox Ave.~~ brought out thousands of citizens in protest. Police at once deployed over 100 patrolmen, detectives and big brass in the area from 7 p.m. Saturday to 2 a.m. yesterday morning.

According to an eyewitness, Mrs. Thomas, 38, of 309 W. 148 St., mother of four children, was beaten to the sidewalk after an argument with a checker in Foremost Foods Market, 101 W. 116 St.

Mrs. Thomas is the wife of a merchant seaman. Her assailant was 28 Precinct patrolman Jack Shep. A woman who was in the store during the incident told the Daily Worker that Shep, called to settle Mrs. Thomas' argument with Helen Janowsky, 262 Davidson St., the checker, used his nightstick on Mrs. Thomas. Mon.

"The cop," she said, "beat Mrs. Thomas on the head. He pushed her out of the store and beat her some more. When she fell to the sidewalk he kept on hitting her."

5-17-48

At midnight Saturday the area around the store was tense as police kept people moving and detectives stood on stoops and in doorways.

POLICE STORY

Deputy Chief Inspector Fristensky denied that Mrs. Thomas had been beaten by a policeman. She was injured during a scuffle with store employes, he claimed.

Yesterday Deputy Inspector Thomas V. Boylan of the 28th Precinct admitted that Mrs. Thomas suffered "contusions and bruises of the head."

Boylan said she had been treated at Sydenham Hospital. A check with Sydenham officials, however, failed to reveal a record of Mrs. Thomas' edmission.

Boylan declared that four men were arrested for disorderly conduct during the night but refused to give their names. He said no charges had been lodged against either Mrs. Thomas or any store employes involved.

When the Daily Worker reporter visited Mrs. Thomas' home yesterday a man, who said he was a friend minding her children, declared that she was not in. He said that she was at her sister's home but refused to say where that was.

DAVIS ASKS ACTION

Yesterday Councilman Benjamin J. Davis pointed out that the beating came just six days after a cop killed a Negro on West 151st St. in Harlem.

"The situation demands immediate action by Mayor O'Dwyer," said Davis.

"This vicious attack on a Negro woman climaxes the 30 documented cases of police brutality I presented long ago to authorities. This latest incident highlights my demand for the immediate removal of Police Commissioner Wallender, who has incited his troops to violence against the citizens of Harlem."

Davis made three demands:

1. Suspension and prosecution of the policeman responsible for this latest assault.

5-17-48

2. Discontinuance of the special mobilization of police in Harlem.

3. The naming of a responsible group of Harlem citizens, authorized to consult with Mrs. Thomas and to make a full investigation.

Yesterday the Communist Party of Harlem issued thousands of leaflets urging "the unity of all organizations in Harlem in the fight to make our community safe for every citizen.

The party also urged support of Davis' resolution in the Council, No. 533, calling for an investigation of police brutality.

Cop Beats, Arrests Woman in Harlem

Daily Worker

New York

Jul. 7-1-48

By John Hudson Jones

Harlem citizens yesterday denounced the police beating of a Negro woman over the weekend and her subsequent arrest. The victim, Bessie Bryant, 31, of 120 W. 139 St., was charged with disorderly conduct and sentenced to 10 days in jail, after being beaten and kicked by 32d Precinct detective Algernon Reidman.

Marion and Hattie Mayes, of 238 W. 134 St., eyewitnesses, told the Daily Worker yesterday that Miss Bryant and an unidentified woman were engaged in a dispute about 3:15 a.m. Sunday at 133 St. and Eighth Ave.

The sisters said they saw a detective pull up in a car, jump out and kick one of the women. "He didn't tell them to move on or to stop arguing," they said. The other woman got away. They added that when a crowd gathered and protested the cop's sadism, Miss Bryant was "hauled into the car" and taken to the 135th Precinct.

The angry crowd followed. At the precinct they met Miss Bryant, who had been released.

7-1-48

YOUTH ARRESTED

A 19-year-old youth, protesting to Reidman that "you wouldn't kick a white woman like this" was punched in the jaw by the detective and promptly arrested.

The Mayes sisters said Reidman and others had threatened the group to "get out or we'd all be arrested and get our heads bashed in." Following the youth's arrest, Reidman went outside and again arrested Miss Bryant.

In Weekend Court before Magistrate Strong, the youth was fined $10, Miss Bryant receiving 10 days.

Captain Levy of the 32d Precinct yesterday alibied to the Daily Worker that the woman had "called the officer" a string of vile names. Witnesses observed, however, that Miss Bryant had no time before she was kicked to curse the cop, and was in so much pain afterward that she couldn't talk.

Protests against the beating came yesterday from Rev. Joseph N. C. Davis, newly elected chairman, and Audley Moore, executive director of the Harlem Civil Rights Congress. A CRC meeting of eye witnesses to the assault was scheduled for CRC headquartrs at 124 W. 124 St. last night.

7-1-48

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis' City Council resolution calling for investigation of cop violence, is still bottled up in the Council Rules Committee, headed by Democrat Walter Hart.

13e 1948 New York

Use Night Stick Law Against Women

Daily Worker

By Joseph North New York, N.Y.

(Third of a Series)

Every fiber of the ordinary human revolts at the sight of a man beating a woman but it doesn't seem to faze Police Commissioner Wallander in the least. It is amazing how New York's No. 1 policeman can maintain a stoic silence as his blue-coated underlings pile up a record of bestially maltreating women in the Negro communities of New York. Tues

Once you say A in the code of racism you must say B and ultimately all ordinary standards of decency are destroyed. Commissioner Wallander is up near Z, and if the greatest city in the world does not have a case where the authorities are dragging a Negro mother of 12 to the electric chair, as Georgia is doing today, the police authority can claim no credit for it. 3-9-48

His criminal silence has bee interpreted as official sanction by the hoodlums of Greenwich Village who may assault any woman of darker skin, and find the policeman's back conveniently turned. Only the most determined pressure of the Civil Rights Congress has evoked any official concern over the beating of a Negro woman in an Eighth Ave. cafeteria a few days ago.

My brief inquiry has already shown my countless instances such as these: let a Negro mother talk up in behalf of her children and she can be mauled by the policemen and hauled off to prison (Mrs. Ethel Woods). Let her complain that she is denied the elementary courtesies shown women of lighter skin, and she can be beaten to the pavement by the cop's nightstick. (Miss Constance Chainey).

Let her go on strike for a few cents more in her pay envelope and she can be ridden down by horse-police who laugh at her agonies (Mrs. Rachel Hall.)

Let her emerge as a political leader who strives for a decent world and FBI men may invade her home and the government begins proceedings to deport her (Miss Claudia Jones).

POLICE STAY SILENT

It's all in the picture, with facts, irrefutable proof, to document these charges and Commissioner Wallander cannot claim ignorance. Councilman Benjamin J. Davis has drawn his attention to these cases innumerable times. So other Negro leaders. But headquarters maintain an Olympian silence as the very sidewalks of New York become a perilous gauntlet through which a Negro woman must pass every day of her life. Daily Worker

Let me tell you the story of Mrs. Josie Stewart which is a typical case history of the way New York's "Finest" regard Negro womanhood. Here is a classic example: New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Josie Stewart is an ordinary woman, like millions in this city. She works hard as a dress trimmer and is a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union. In the company of two friends, Mrs, Helen Urquhart and Miss Meitha Griffin, both of the Bronx, she had been visiting friends in Harlem. 3-9-48

They departed for home after midnight and Mrs. Stewart hailed a cab at 111 St. and Fifth Ave. When the driver refused to take his passengers to their destination Mrs. Stewart complained at this violation of the hackie's responsibility. He ordered the women out of the cab. Mrs. Stewart saw a police car across the street and called for an officer. After her recital he pushed her away from the cab and ordered the driver to proceed. Tues

"The cop cursed me and said 'You people are always making trouble.'" When she demanded an explanation from the officer he struck her in the mouth with his nightclub. "Blood gushed over my face and he hit me again." He pushed her into the car and drove to the 26th Precinct station house.

There the policeman continued his obscene abuse and actually ordered Mrs. Stewart to disrobe. He kicked her, punched her frequently with his fists, and snatched her wallet. As she was being fingerprinted the officer remembered his "cop's code"—"Get something on them"—and he put a small knife on the table and aked "Don't you want your knife?" She denied it was hers and he insisted she had cut his shirt with it.

The women were defended in court by Louis Fleischer, of the Civil Rights Congress who asked the Magistrate to issue a summons for the officer's arrest. The Magistrate refused. The police, as is customary, secured an indictment against Mrs. Stewart and her companions. The Grand Jury evidently disregarded the policeman's testimony about the knife, for the felony charge was reduced to simple assault, a misdemeanor. The women were "found guilty," and Mrs. Stewart was given 30 ways in jail. The others received sus-sentences. The cop walks his beat, unreprimanded, ready for a repeat performance any day or night.

Multiply such cases indefinitely and you stay within the boundaries of fact. Consider the case of Mrs. Ethel Woods, a dress operator, who happens also to be an ILGWU member. She was maltreated and arrested for protesting the treatment she saw a policeman give three children, about 10 years old, one a Negro and the other two white. They had been breaking bottles against a wall, as kids in any neighborhood will. 3-9-48

She saw a policeman walk over to the children deliver a crippling kick at the Negro boy. She indignantly protested to the policeman who looked her over coldly demanding what business it was of hers. Daily Worker

"I have a boy" she said "and I would not like to see him kicked." This was evidently dangerous sedition to the policeman who seized Mrs. Wood's arm, handled her roughly and arrested her on 'disorderly conduct" charges.

As he led her to the 158th street station she said, thoughtfully:

"What I should have done was to just take your badge number and report you without speaking to you." He replied triumphantly: "That is where I am smarter than you, it's now my word against yours.".

The policeman's name is William Harrison, badge number 6556. His case proved so flimsy that the Magistrate's Court dismissed the charges. Tues. 3-9-48

But Badge Number 6556 still walks his beat, unreprimanded,

Or take the instance of Constance Chainey who committed the crime of standing on St. Nicholas Ave. between 140 and 141 Sts. talking to a friend Charles Martin. Officer No. 10838, of the 32nd Precinct, burst into their conversation with a brutal "What are you ——'s standing here for?" The term he used, is obscenely unprintable.

Mr. Martin asked "What did you say?" and the officer struck him. When Miss Chainey protested the cop turned on her with an epithet, "You bitch," and beat her to the ground. When she rose, he told her and Mr. Martin "to get home," whereupon the couple went to the Precinct Station to file a complaint. The captain refused to accept it.

And Officer No. 10838 walks his beat, unreprimanded, ready for a repeat performance any day or night. Daily Worker

I did encounter one case where the higher-ups were obliged to show some interest, and, as the pattern shows, it happened only because of organized pressure. New York 114

Miss Madge Clarke of 75 St. Nicholas Pl., is counselor at the Children's Center, 1 E. 104 St. She belongs to the Social Service Employes Union. One morning, on her way to work, police car RMP 857 drew up and the officer ordered her to get in or else she "would be shot." Tues

IGNORE REQUEST

They ignored her request to be driven to the Center, where she could be identified to their satisfaction. She was roughly treated in the car, the officer charging her with complicity in a murder. She was taken to the Circle Cafe on Eighth Ave., where two other Negro women said, "No, she's not the woman." 3-9-48

Miss Clarke then demanded an apology, which was jeeringly refused. She filed a complaint against Police Officer Frank Mullins, and, later, a Deputy Inspector called her to the precinst station but offered no satisfactory apology.

Councilman Davis thereupon wrote the Mayor and Commissioner Walllander. Miss Clarke's union intervened, and finally the two police officers were officially reprimanded and ordered to apologize.

But such an instance is rare, and happens only when organized groups of our citizens act in relentless protest. Meanwhile New York's women of darker pigmentation go to and from work never certain when they may be assaulted by hoodlums—or police. It is all to hard to find the distinction.

The next article will appear in the weekend Worker.

Daily Worker

MRS. JOSIE STEWART

Beaten by Cops

New York, N.Y.

Cops Beat, Jail Negro Pickets at Armour Plant

Daily Worker

13e

New York, N.Y.

Thurs. 5-6-48

A Negro strike captain was beaten and dragged to jail when police escorted a busload of scabs yesterday into the Armour packing plant at 40th Street and 11th Avenue.

As they did Tuesday, mounted police scattered pickets of the CIO Packinghouse Workers again yesterday by charging against the line.

The injured man, in his late 50's, is Bill Parris, secretary-treasurer of the Armour local of the union. A union spokesman said that Parris was beaten across the legs and forcibly removed when he tried to talk to one of the strikebreakers. He was subsequently paroled in the custody of a union attorney.

The police attack and the scab-herding occurred, the union said, after 10 a.m. Until then, more than 300 were picketing the Armour plant, including supporters from the Fur Workers, National Maritime Union, Office Workers, Marine Engineers, United Electrical, Transport Workers and Furniture Workers—all CIO. Thurs.

At 10, when only 20 pickets were present, the busload of scabs arrived and the cops went into action. 5-6-48

The strikebreakers, who are picked up at different spots each day, assembled today at Columbus Circle, the union said. According to the Packinghouse Workers, the Armour scabs are professional thugs and strikebreakers.

On Tuesday, the union wired Mayor O'Dwyer and Police Commissioner Wallander, assailing the "unprovoked attacks" by police and demanding an end to such actions.

Beginning today, a union spokesman said, it is planned to keep picket lines at full strength all day before the Armour plant. The union pointed out that it was when the size of the line had been reduced that the police violence and scab-herding began.

Around the Dial

Daily Worker

Facts Behind WNEW's News Release On Harlem Sunday Morning Incident

By Bob Lauter

New York, N.Y.

FOLLOWING is a release sent out by Station WNEW:

"Disturbances in Harlem early Sunday morning, when rioters used bricks and 'Molotov cocktails' after a rumor spread that Mrs. Lena Thomas had been beaten and killed by a mounted policeman, were quelled when Mrs. Thomas broadcast over WNEW and said, 'I'm not dead. . . . I'm all right.'

"In a dramatic impromptu broadcast, Mrs. Thomas and Neil Scott, civic leader and husband of singer Carol Brice, were interviewed by Johnny Dale on WNEW's **Milkman's Matinee**, at the request of the Police Department. Thurs. 5-20-48

"Shortly after the disturbances started, the police called WNEW and requested that Mr. Scott be permitted to go on the air to tell the crowds to return to their homes. Scott went on the air at 2:35 A. M., telling the people to disperse, adding that he had seen Mrs. Thomas in Sydenham Hospital and that she was not in a critical condition.

"When the disturbances continued, Scott took to the WNEW microphone again at 3:35 A. M. Mrs. Thomas was rushed to WNEW with a police motorcycle escort in eight and a half minutes, and at 4:35 A. M. she went on the air to say that she was alive. She made her brief statement twice."

• • •

THAT'S THE WNEW RELEASE. What was left out of the release is a lot more important than what went in. The release does not record the major fact: Mrs. Lena Thomas was brutally and inhumanly beaten by a 28th Precinct policeman, and if she happened to be alive it was through no fault of the cops. The case of Mrs. Thomas was not an "incident." It was another event in the course of what is evidently police policy in Harlem.

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

The radio broadcast gave the impression that Mrs. Thomas was "all right." She was not "all right." She was severely injured.

To say that Mrs. Thomas was interviewed at the "request" of the police department completely distorts the true picture. Neil Scott, a promoter frequently associated with the Amsterdam News, and a detective, pressured Mrs. Thomas into her appearance on the radio, to which she was taken after being aroused from her bed at suffering severe bruises and cuts. She did not want riots to take place. But she did not want to spread the impression that she was "all right," or that the "rumors" of police brutality were untrue. These weren't rumors. They were facts. 5-20-48

Neil Scott, according to Mrs. Thomas, warned her to make her radio statement or the "Communists" would stir up riots.

It would be a mighty fine thing if WNEW, and other metropolitan stations, would give time (not at the request of the police department) to citizens of Harlem in order to let them tell all of New York about the downright storm-trooper brutality which is currently being used in an attempt to terrorize the Negro people. Thurs.

An 11th hour interview on **Milkman's Matinee** might save the situation once. But only an end to police brutality in Harlem is going to make a fundamental change in the situation.

Handcuffed Man Brutally Beaten

13e Journal Guide

Sat 3-27-48

Highway Patrolman Gets Off With Light Fine For Assault

Norfolk Va

WINTON, N. C.—A story of alleged brutality inflicted by state highway police upon a defenseless handcuffed prisoner with almost unparalleled ramifications of bestiality was unfolded in testimony given in Hertford County Recorder's Court during an all day trial on March 10.

Involved in the case were Cleveland C. Pierce, Hertford county filling station operator who charged former Patrolman James W. Reavis and Patrolman John Hacket with assault and battery, while Pierce himself stood trial on a charge of reckless driving at a speed of 85 miles an hour.

At the end of the long drawn out hearing a six-man jury returned guilty verdicts against Reavis and Pierce, while returning a not guilty verdict against Hackett. Reavis, who had resigned from the State Highway Patrol since the charges were preferred against him, was accused by Hackett as having been the aggressor in the attack upon their prisoner.

From court opening until 10:05 p. m. the dilapidated court room of Hertford County was literally packed to the ceilings, as dozens from overflowing crowds stood on the stairway or crowded into windows, where they stood during the afternoon session in spite of driving rains.

In the prosecution of Pierce the state only used two witnesses. Patrolman Hackett and J. C. Terry, operator of a filling station between Aulander and Ahoskie.

Hackett testified that he and ex-Patrolman Reavis had met a car going toward Aulander near the "Poortown Road" at about 8:40 p. m. on the night of Jan. 29. The car had been almost halfway across the road and had caused Reavis to drive off the road.

The patrol car was quickly turned around and pursuit was begun.

Hackett said at the time of the meeting, the Pierce car did not appear to be exceeding the speed limit and its only infraction of the law was being astraddle the center line of the highway.

When the patrol car, with siren blowing, came within about 300 yards of Pierce's car it began to draw away and from there until the two charging cars reached Aulander, Hackett said they were unable to close the gap, although the patrol car was running between 85 and 90 miles per hour.

JUMPED OUT CAR

Upon catching the Pierce car as it was stopped on a side street in Aulander, Hackett said that he and Reavis of course jumped out of the patrol car and rushed to the fleetwinged Mercury Pierce was driving.

Hackett said he was on the left of Pierce's car and that Pierce first made a move as to leave from the right side, where Reavis was located.

He then slid back under the wheel of the car, Hackett continued. "When he did this I opened the door, grabbed him by the arm and told him he was under arrest."

"I then took him from the car and started towards the patrol car. We met Reavis, who had come around from the other side of the Pierce car. Reavis slapped Pierce in the face several times. I jumped between them and told 'Jim' to stop," Hackett testified.

"We then took Pierce to the patrol car. I opened the door and told him to get in. He got in the back seat and I told him to get in the front. He didn't move, so Patrolman Reavis went around to the other side, got in and shoved Pierce out of the car. They both got out. I then told Reavis to take Pierce's car and drive it to 'No Man's Land' in Ahoskie and I would pick him up there," Hackett's testimony continued.

> **"After Reavis had left to take Pierce's car, I put handcuffs on Pierce and we started toward Ahoskie," Hackett said.**

Asked on cross examination if he usually handcuffed men only charge with speeding and reckless driving, Hackett replied, "No. I thought this man had a stolen car and was trying to get away.

"When we were about two and a half miles out toward Ahoskie, Reavis who was ahead, stuck out his hand and pulled off the road. I pulled up parallel to him, thinking he was out of gas. Reavis stepped out of the Pierce car, came to the patrol car, opened the door, grabbed Pierce, jerked him out of the car and knocked him down. I jumped out of the car, ran around and got between them and told Jim again to quit and go on to Ahoskie. I helped Pierce back into the car and we started out to Ahoskie again," Hackett's testimony went on.

TESTIMONY DIFFERED

It was at this juncture in Pierce's testimony that the first difference was noted. Pierce said that Reavis had him out beating on him, that Hackett came around the car, grabbed him and as he swung around he said Hackett struck him, knocking him against the car. Pierce said that he fell to the ground and while lying there he was kicked about the head, body and stomped until "They apparently got tired."

Pierce said the patrolman told him to get back in the car and he did as quickly as he was able.

Hackett said that a mile or two further on toward Ahoskie, Reavis repeated his signal and pulled off the road again. He came to the patrol car again when it had stopped and swung at Pierce again but Pierce threw his handcuffed hands up and warded off the blow.

Pierce testified that at this second stop, Reavis told him to get out and he begged Hackett to not make him do so. He said that Hackett had replied, "You heard him. God dammit get out." He said that Reavis tripped him as he got out of the car and he fell face-first in the snow and ice. While down Reavis kicked and stomped him some more, Pierce asserted.

DENIED PIERCE

Reavis and Hackett both strongly denied that Hackett had ever struck Pierce, that any profanity was used and that Pierce did not leave the car when it was stopped the second time.

Both Reavis and Hackett admitted that Reavis had struck Pierce on his wrists at this second stop.

> **Both Reavis and Hackett admitted on cross examination that Pierce had not said or done anything to provoke an attack.**

Hackett said and Reavis corroborated that when the cars stopped the second time and Reavis opened the door he demanded of Pierce, "Aren't you the man who outran me night before last?" Pierce denied this.

Pierce offered pictures taken of him soon after the assault showing a "blackeye" cuts over the left eye and other bruises about the face.

Both members of the private prosecution in the case against the officers, Jennings White of Conway and Robert Lowery of Elizabeth City, asserted in summing up the case that Hackett, being the senior officer and under whose supervision Reavis was working, was more guilty than Reavis.

JUDGES' DECISION

Judge Boone in handing down his decision, commented that, in his opinion, Hackett had done what "most of us would have done."

The Judge went on, "We now have the advantage of hindsight and it is easy for us to say just what we would have done in a similar circumstance."

Before sentencing Reavis and Pierce, Boone questioned them as to their service record and in comment upon this used a line of poetry to sum up his feelings about men who had been trained for combat. "I am a bit of all that I have lived." Reavis and Pierce were both enlisted men in the Navy.

Boone said that both Reavis and Pierce were young men and that both had been guilty of indiscretions. That both men had fine reputations but both had violated the law.

Boone said that inevitably the question of the State Highway Patrol had to be injected into the cases. "But I am not trying the Highway Patrol. I am merely trying two men, who happen to be members of the Highway Patrol."

Sheriff Guilty on Assault Count

Afro American

Baltimore Md

AHOSKIE, N. C.—Sheriff C. W. Parker has been found guilty of "simple assault" upon Albert Lawrence, a tenant farmer, who lives near here. He will be sentenced at the next session of Recorder's court scheduled for Tuesday.

The incident which prompted the assault charge occurred about a month ago when Sheriff Parker and several other peace officers closed Casa Mayana, a night club for the alleged sale of beer on Sunday.

Sat 11-27-48

L. O. Keen, another farmer, also brought a similar charge against the sheriff.

Sheriff Slapped Farmer

It was brought out in the testimony that Sheriff Parker had slapped Keen, "after he grabbed my tie" while he was dispersing some 250 persons at the night club, and had later repeated the incident against Lawrence "after he cursed me."

Presiding Judge Dare Boone non-suited a similar charge against Patrolman John Hackett following the request of defense attorneys.

The judge also ordered the solicitor to draw up a warrant for Lawrence for "an affray" and this trial also is expected to be heard at the next session of the court.

"Secret Treatment" Condemned

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Case Of Convicted Boy Considered; Verdict Set Aside

Sat. 1-17-48

13e

WASHINGTON, D. C.—NNPA—By a 5-to-4 decision, the United States Supreme Court last Monday denounced third-degree methods employed by police of Canton, Ohio, to obtain a confession from a 15-year old high school senior.

The boy, John Harvey Haley, was convicted of first degree murder while participating in a robbery and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Justice William O. Douglas wrote the majority opinion — a scathing condemnation of the "secret treatment" by police of the 15-year old boy "behind closed doors in the dead of night."

Joining the majority opinion with Justice Douglas were Justices Hugo L. Black, Frank Murphy and Wiley Rutledge. Justice Felix Frankfurter wrote a separate opinion, concurring in the reversal of the judgment. His language, however, was more moderate than that of the majority opinion.

1-17-48

BURTON DISSENTS

Justice Harold H. Burton, himself an Ohioan, dissented. Concurring in the dissent were Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and Associate Justices Stanley F. Reed and Robert H. Jackson.

In this case, William Karam was shot to death during the robbery of his confectionery store store near midnight, October 14, 1945.

Daily World

Around midnight October 19, 1945, Haley was arrested at his home and taken to police headquarters. Beginning shortly after midnight he was questioned by the police for about five hours. Around 5 a. m., after Haley had been shown alleged confessions of two accomplice, the boy confessed.

Atlanta, Ga.

The confession said Haley had acted as lookout while the other two boys, William Lowder, 16 and Al Parks, 17, went into the store to rob the storekeeper, Haley was to warn Lowder and Parks by tapping on the window in case anyone approached. When the fatal shot was fired, the three boys ran from the scene of the crime.

NOT ADVISED.

After police obtained the oral confession from Haley, it was typed in question - answer form. At no time was the boy advised of his right to counsel, but the written confession said he had been informed as to his constitutional right to make or refuse to make a statement.

Sat. 1-17-48

Haley was sent to jail about 6 or 6:30 a. m., October 20, 1945, after the confession was signed. Between then and October 23, 1945, he was held incommunicado. He was not taken before a magistrate and formally charged with a crime until October 23, 1945, three days after the confession was signed.

At the trial, Haley testified he was beaten. His mother testified that the clothes he wore when arrested were torn and blood stained. She testified that when she saw him five days after his arrest he was bruised and skinned. The police denied this testimony. The confession was admitted into evidence with instructions to the jury to disregard it if is found the confession had not been voluntarily made.

METHODS NOT SQUARE

Declaring that the methods used in obtaining the confession cannot be squared with that due process of law which the Fourteenth Amendment commands, Justice Douglas said:

13e

"What transpired would make us pause for careful inquiry if a mature man were involved. And when, as here, a mere child—an easy victim of the law—is before us, special care in scrutinizing the record must be used.

Daily World

"Age 15 is a tender and difficult age for a boy of any race. He cannot be judged by the more exacting standards of maturity. That which would leave a man cold and unimpressed can overawe and overwhelm a lad in his early teens. This is the period of great instability which the crisis of adolescense produces.

Atlanta, Ga

"A 15-year old lad, questioned through the dead of night by relays of police, is a ready victim of the inquisition. Mature men possibly might stand the ordeal from midnight to 5 a. m. But we cannot believe that a lad of tender years is a match for the police in such a contest. He needs counsel and support if he is not to become the victim first of fear, then of panic.

Sat. 1-17-48

13e

"No friend stood at the side of this 15-year old boy as the police working in relays, questioned him hour after hour, from midnight until dawn. No lawyer stood guard to make sure that the police went so far and no farther, to see to it that they stopped short of the point where he became the victim of coercion.

Sat. 1-17-48

PHOTOGRAPHER ADMITTED

"No counsel or friend was called during the critical hours of questioning, A photographer was admitted once this lad broke and confessed. But not even a gesture towards getting a lawyer for him was ever made.

"This disregard of the standards of decency is underlined by the fact that he was kept incommunicado for over three days during which the lawyer retained to represent him twice tried to see him and twice was refused admission.

A photographer was admitted at once; but his closest friend — his mother—was not allowed to see him for over five days after his arrest.

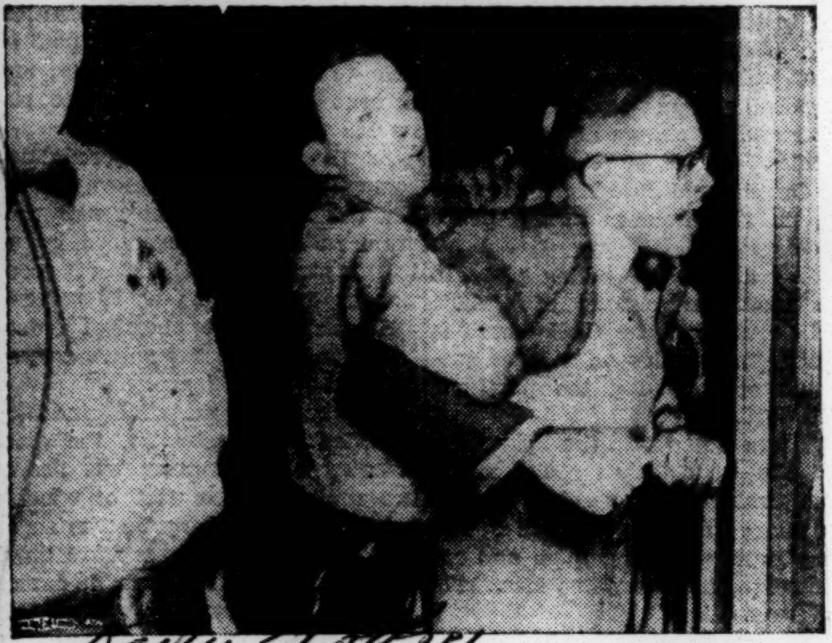
Daily World

Citing several precedents, Justice Douglas concluded that "The Fourteenth Amendment prohibits the police from using the private, secret custody of either man or child as a device for wringing confessions from them."

Atlanta, Ga.

Justice Frankfurter said in his concurring opinion that whether the confession was "voluntary" or "coerced" was "not a matter of mathematical determination" but invited "psychological judgment."

Philly New Party Candidate Sues Cops for False Arrest



Daily Worker 8-18-48

Magistrate Joseph B. Rainey of Philadelphia, Progressive Party candidate for Congress, is shown being manhandled by cops in the Philadelphia 16 precinct station. Judge Rainey is suing cops for $25,000 for false arrest.

130

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17. — Magistrate Joseph Rainey, Progressive Party candidate for Congress, started a $25,000 damage suit in Federal Court Tuesday against three policemen who manhandled and arrested him last month. He also presented Attorney General Tom Clark with a formal demand for the arrest and prosecution of the three police attackers under the federal civil rights statute. If Clark refuses to act, Rainey still has the privilege of swearing out arrest warrants himself.

Rainey, only Negro Congressional candidate in Pennsylvania, also asked through his attorney Saul Waldbaum, for an injunction against police interference with his election campaign.

Rainey charged violation of the Constitution, assault and battery, and false arrest against Sgt. Norman L. Bloodgood, and Patrolmen Jeffe Strange and William Stubers. The three, led by Bloodgood, jumped Rainey, he charges, when he inquired at the 30th and Lancaster police station Friday evening July 16, for the driver of one of his campaign sound trucks whom police had picked up.

CHARGES DISMISSED

After rough handling, requiring medical care which police refused, Rainey was locked in a cell for 20 minutes. Charges against him were dismissed at a Magistrate's hearing the following morning.

8-18-48

Rainey, twice elected Magistrate on the Democratic ticket is president of the Philadelphia National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. His campaign against local police comes shortly after 500 south Philadelphia Negroes resisted the rising police terror here in a battle with cops Aug. 8, in which one Negro was shot and arrested along with two others, both merchant seamen. The Civil Rights Congress is spear-heading a campaign in their behalf.

Church Head Cites Brutality Acts To Clark

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Sun. 3-21-48

Rev. Jernigan Believes Drive Is Deliberate

WASHINGTON— (ANP)— Rev. W. H. Jernagin, director of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches of America, in a recent letter to Atty. Gen. Tom Clark revealed that Negro people of the south are being treated to a campaign of police brutality and intimidation that outranks anything that has happened to them in many years.

"This situation," he said, 'is being deliberately played down by the newspapers in most instances and generally is not treated by the press at all. The majority of these cases appear to involve Negro veterans, and generaly in those communities where Negro veterans and other citizens have dared to speak out, thus facing the mob and possible lynching."

3-21-48

Rev. Jernagin had just returned to Washington from New Orleans where he had attended an executive meeting of the National Baptist Sunday School and B. T. U. congress, and another meeting of the executive board of the National Baptist convention.

CONVERSATIONS

Daily World

This information was gathered through conversations with Negro church leaders from 38 states who attended the meetings. The story which alarmed this militant church leader most was a factual report coming from Mississippi which told of two lynchings and two near lynchings involving Negro veterans within the last three months. Atlanta, Ga.

Believing that this is a deliberate drive being conducted by southern white leaders to discourage passage of civil rights legislation, the council director, speaking in behalf of 7,000,000 church member

3-21-46

Study Shows Rights Program Launched Wave Of Terrorism

Memphis World – Memphis, Tenn.

Advertisements Appeal To Base Instincts In South

Tu. 7-2-48

7-2-48

BY CARTER JEWELL

RICHMOND—(ANP)— A survey of newspaper stories and events in the south in the last two months shows that police officers and other officials in the south have become more actve in abusing, attacking and arresting Negro citizens on any pretext available since public discussions have been held on President Truman's civil rights program for Negroes.

There is no mistake about it. The south intends to defeat the civil rights program by lawless attacks on Negroes by resorting to brute force imprisonment and murder of Negroes who dare assert their rights. Already so-called liberal whites have proved to be of no value in the civil rights program in the south.

President Truman's civil rights program has played right into the use every good opportunity to stir up ill feeling between Negroes and whites for their own political advantage.

BIASED STATEMENTS

The Birmingham Post of May 3, 1948, carried a full page political advertisement of the Jefferson County Democratic campaign committee full of prejudicial statements on Mr. Truman's civil rights program for Negroes. 7-2-48

The advertisement after appealing to the basest instincts of white voters urges them to:

"Vote for these delegates and electors who won't vote for Truman or any one who favors 'civil rights' for Negroes before or after the Philadelphia convention."

White bus drivers are vigilant these days to see that Negroes ride Jim crow in the south. Mrs. Lucinda Goodman, recreational worker, was arrested in Norfolk, Va., last week because she refused to relinquish her seat in the front part of a city bus and stand to give a seat to a white passenger. The Negro man who interceded in her behalf and Mrs. Goodman were fined $5.60 each in police court the next morning.

Hostile whites and members or sympathizers of the Ku Klux Klan sought recently to frighten a Negro family from their home in Wall Township, N. J., by burning a cross near their home. Every advance of Negroes is opposed by ignorant and prejudiced whites in every section of the United States.

In Norfolk a Negro, Gus McLawrence, is brutally beaten after his arrest allegedly on a drunken charge,, but the police department manages to escape blame even after McLawrence's cell mate is exonerated of any connection with the beating. 7-2-48

MYSTERY REPORT

The white dailies in Norfolk report the McLawrence beating as a 'mystery' after his cellmate was exonerated, but the Negro public thinks the "cracker" police did the beating.

Southern whites are determined to keep Negroes slaves. Truman's civil rights program seems to reveal this plan. Florida's Governor Caldwell said in his commencement address at the Medical College of Virginia that Truman's civil rights program for Negroes was purely a political stunt.

The American Council of Christian Churches convention meeting in Atlanta, in May, described the civil rights program as a socialists scheme said the solution of the problems involved in the social rights issues are to be found "the preaching of the gospel" which race hating whites never or seldom use to improve race relations.

The impotence of the white church to act positively on civil rights for Negroes was brought out in the failure of the White Ministerial association of Norfolk to take a decided stand in favor of President Truman's civil rights program for Negroes during brotherhood month last February. The Norfolk white ministers found an opportunity to take no decided action on the issue.

In Richmond, Danville, Lynchberg, Newport News, Roanoke and in other Virginia cities police officials have been much more particular about seeing that Negroes observe rigidly Virginia racial segregation laws. Tu. 7-2-48

Fundamentally, however, the civil rights issue in Virginia seems mostly professional and political. The white and Negro masses get along much better until the white professionals who claim they work to preserve civilization and the politicians who claim they want to prevent Negro domination, get into the picture.

Reports reaching Richmond reveal that in Brambleton, a supposedly tough interracial section in Norfolk, Va., the lowly whites and blacks are handling the interracial problem expertly.

When Negroes first moved into Brambleton, a white section, one Negro home was attacked by white hoodlums under the direction of professional whites. But that has been the only outstanding case of anti-Negro attack in that neighborhood. 7-2-48

White and colored children now play together. White and Negro families get along well together. It is the politicians, the professionals and shallow white religious leaders who make trouble between the races in Virginia.

Church Head Cites Brutality Acts To Clark

Memphis World
June 3 1948

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Memphis Tenn.

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two near lynchings involving Negro veterans within the last
three months.

Believing that this a deliberate drive being conducted by southern white leaders to discourage passage of Civil Rights legislation, the church director, speaking in behalf of 7,000,000 church members representing 11 denominations, urged the Attorney general to investigate immediately and bring to justice those responsible for the denials of civil liberties to Negro citizen in the South.

CANNOT TOLORATE SUCH

The Sunday school and B.T.U. congress president declared that "Our government can no longer tolorate a situation which comes very close to being the same as that we cry out against in the s so called police state. of Europe.

"As a nation of people professing to believe in christian way of charity and justice for a all, we are on the road to becoming a nation hated by all who love freedom because we show so little of our belief in the free-

Vacation Trip to Native State Costs Him Dearly

(13e) Afro American

Baltimore Md.

Forced to Pay Fine at Florence or Go to Jail; 'Shorty' Helps Him Get Out

6-19-48

WASHINGTON

How he was abused and thrown into jail, where he was held incommunicado, on trumped-up charges by Florence, S.C., police, was graphically related to an AFRO reporter this week by W. B. Mumford of 12 P St., N.W., a trucker employed by the Safeway grocery chain.

According to Mr. Mumford, he was on his way to Darlington, S.C., for a vacation and while en route, he stopped in Florence, to transfer from a train to a bus that was to carry him to his destination 10 miles away.

It was about 1:45 on the morning of June 1, when he stepped from his train and was walking across the station platform on his way to the bus station.

Officer "Picks" Argument

While crossing the platform, a police officer was arresting a man (reason unknown) and Mr. Mumford stopped nearby watching the Dixie gendarme make his arrest.

The officer looked at Mumford and drawled: "Say boy! Who do you think you are, telling me what to do?"

Mr. Mumford answered: "Sir, I haven't said a word." And he explained to the AFRO, he hadn't.

While he was talking to the Southern policeman, Mr. Mumford states, a piece of tobacco got on the tip of his tongue from the cigarette he was smoking and he tried to blow it off.

Arrested by Policeman

"So, you're trying to spit in my face," screamed the red-necked guardian of law and order.

"No sir," said the visitor, "I am sorry, I was trying to get rid of the tobacco on my tongue. I wouldn't spit in a dog's face."

"Now you're calling me a dog. Well, come along with me."

Mr. Mumford was quickly taken to the police station.

Fined $127 in 3 Counts

He attempted to plead with the sergeant that he was a native of Darlington and that if the officer would contact the chief-of-police in his town, he would find that he (Mumford) was a citizen of good standing. 6-19-48

However, the policeman ordered him locked up.

On June 2, he was haled before the town's court and was tried without an opportunity to obtain the services of legal counsel.

The judge fined him $127.50 on three counts or a sentence of 60 days working on the county road gang, if unable to pay the fine.

Gets "Lucky Break"

Fortunately, when Mr. Mumford was returned to jail, he observed a fellow inmate, called "Shorty," talking to a white lawyer through the window.

He told the lawyer about his plight. The first time the attorney returned, he seemed like he was disinterested because he had been told by the police that Mumford was a "bad character."

However, Mr. Mumford told the lawyer to call the Darlington police chief and he was sure that the police head would vouch for his integrity.

Given No Receipt for Fine

The lawyer, John L. McGowan, did so and it was learned that Mr. Mumford was an upright citizen of Darlington, who owned property and had never broken a law there. 6-19-48

After a series of legal maneuvers in which Mr. Mumford paid a fine of $127.50 for his alleged "charges and a $12 fine for Shorty, who helped him land legal counsel, he was discharged from jail.

However, he wasn't given a receipt for the payment of the fine, even though he requested one.

His only verification of the amount that he spent for his night in a Florence, S.C. jail is a receipt that was given him by the white lawyer, who aided him in getting out of jail.

He told an AFRO writer: "I have never been booked for anything in my life, Mister, and it is a shame the way they treat colored people in South Carolina.

To prove that he is a hard working man, he points out that he has been working for Safeway for five years and worked for Peoples Drug Stores for 14 years. He has six children, their ages ranging from one to 15 years.

Carolina Cops Run Amuck, Shoot Actor in Tavern

The Courier

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—The recent wave of terrorism by officers of the South Carolina constabulary reached a climax here Tuesday when an actor became the victim of a wild shot fired by an officer, and several persons in a cafe were beaten.

So raw has been the treatment handed out by constabulary officers to citizens that a meeting was held with the force's chief, Joel W. Townsend, to have the terror wave halted.

Victim of the wild shooting was Lewis Riley, member of the stage show playing at the Carver Theatre. He was treated and dismissed from the hospital with a bullet-shattered foot.

Pittsburgh Pa

'SORRY'

According to a bystander, the officer in question was holding a prisoner when someone in the crowd threw a bottle. The officer whipped out his revolver and fired aimlessly down the street. After hitting Riley, he said 'I's sorry I shot you, boy."

This particular incident started in the Club 400, about three doors from the theatre. Three constabulary officials entered the club and ordered all patrons under arrest, saying they were looking for a suspect who had stolen some watches.

NAACP APPEALS

James M. Hinton, State NAACP president, issued an appeal to Governor J. Strom Thurmond for relief, while other sources reported general indignation among Negroes themselves. Few of the victims of the attacks, or even witnesses knew that the men were law officers. Reports were that "a bunch of white men are going around here beating Negroes up.'

However, Chief Townsend announced that his men were investigating certain establishments.

NAACP Probes Into Kingstree Shooting

Lighthouse & Informer

KINGSTREE, S. C.—The South Carolina NAACP Conference was probing this week into the beating and shooting of one man and the striking of several others here last week.

13e

Attorney Harold R. Boulware of Columbia said he had obtained sworn statements from several persons which suggest that last Friday night a sheriff's deputy and other plain clothesmen, allegedly members of the state constabulary, struck needlessly several persons and not one man in the vicinity of the Duffie's Night club.

Shot in the right leg above the knee, and suffering with a broken thigh bone in the Kelley Memorial hospital here as a result, is John Shaw, whose statement identifies the men who struck and shot him in what appeared to be a fruitless search for illegal possession of whiskey.

Columbia S.C.

One of the state constabulary men mentioned here was also cited by Columbians several weeks ago as among those who entered Negro establishments and wantonly assaulted innocent spectators and customers.

13e 1948

South Carolina (Isaac Woodard)

New Trial Denied Blinded Veteran

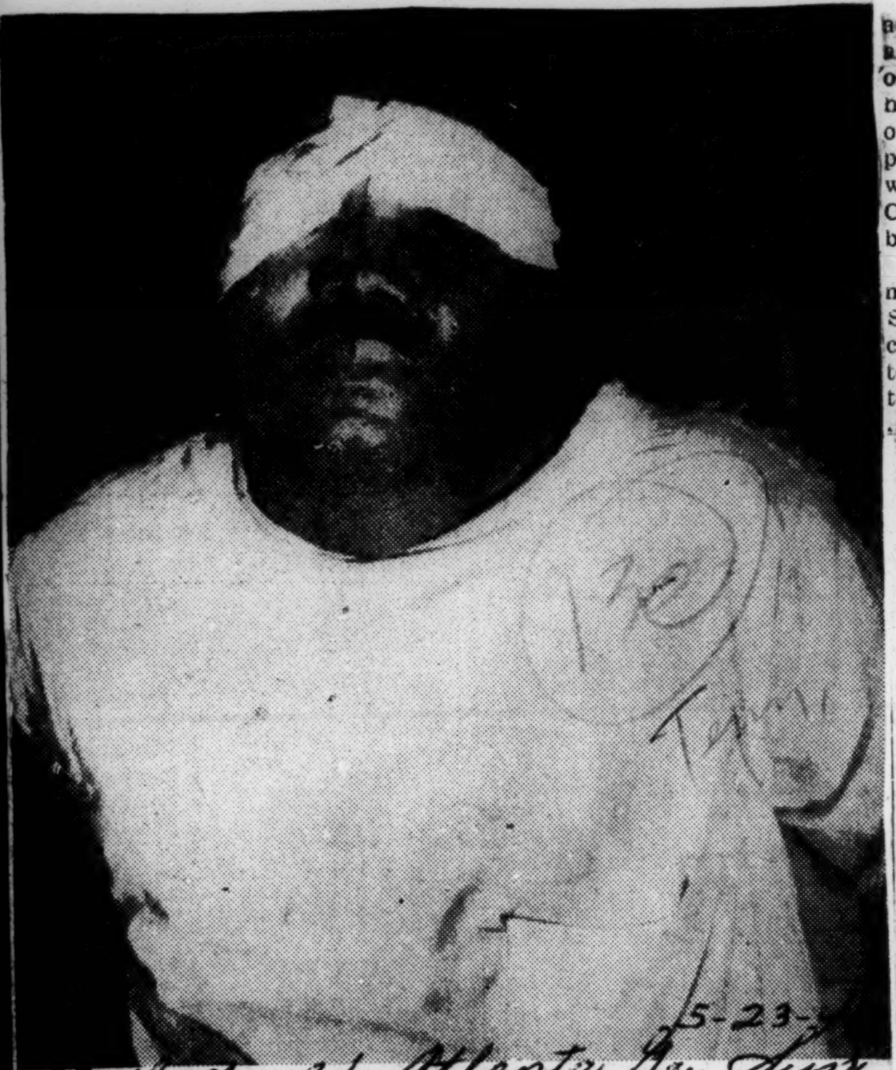
Memphis World 5-25-48

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — The N. A. A. C. P.'s motion for a new trial in the case of Isaac Woodard vs. the Atlantic Greyhound Bus Company was denied by Judge J. F. Bouchelle of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County on May 12. Memphis World

Isaac Woodard, a Negro veteran blinded by a police chief in Batesburg, S. C., in February, 1946, is attempting to recover $50,000 in damages from the Atlantic Greyhound Bus Company, operators of the bus from which Woodard was dragged a few minutes before the beating. In November, 1947, a trial was held in the Circuit Court and a decision in favor of the bus company was handed down. NAACP lawyers argued a motion for a new trial last month, alleging that a jury member had, during the conduct of the trial, publicly expressed bias, by stating in effect that under no conditions would he vote to give Woodard damages.

Memphis World

Tues. 5-25-48



5-23-

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. Sun.

ELI BLAINE

MEMPHIAN LOSES EYE AFTER POLICE ATTACK

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (SNS)—Victim of a violent, vicious police attack . . . right at police headquarters, Eli Blaine, 30, 203 South Lauderdale, has suffered loss of his right eye. The attack made on Blaine, a Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. employe, Sunday morning of this week, has resulted in the outright discharge from the police force of L. E. Bryan, 35, of 2595 Oxford, and Carl W. Brewer, 26, 937 Blythe. The officers have been charged with assault to murder They were jailed shortly after 8 o'clock Sunday night after investigation by Inspector Wiebenga, of the Police Homicide Bureau, later being released under $1,000 bond each.

Sun. 5-23-48

Commissioner Boyle, head of the fire and police departments, according to press reports, was responsible for speedy action taken against the two young officers.

Blaine was assaulted while he wore glasses, one of the broken pieces having lodged in his right eyeball He was still at John Gaston Hospital at this writing.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal, in a by-lined article on the case by one of its staff writers, Bob Marks, reported on the case as follows:

"Commissioner Boyle, who spent Sunday at his farm, was given the police report yesterday morning (Sunday). He immediately visited the hospital to interview Blaine. On return to his office he summoned newspaper men (Not the Negro Press) and released all details of the story. His statements were made in cold, clipped, metallic words, which revealed his burning anger."

"Attorney General Gerber characterized the attack on the Negro as 'outrageous and contemptible,' and promised prosecution of the officers was accused of attacking his victim in the squad car. The other forced the second girl to perform "unnatural" relationship" with him. They were tried in Criminal Court, but were acquitted by a jury.

Sun.

Memphis is one of the few remaining large urban centers of the South without Negro police officers. Nashville only recently voted to put Negroes on the force, Atlanta and Savannah, Ga., have them already.

5-23-48

assault to murder charge without fear or favor.'

In summary the story follows:

Officers Bryan and Brewer answered a 'disturbance' call to Apartment 7, at the Lauderdale address about 2:30 Sunday morning. They found Blaine and other Negroes present, warned that further complaint would result in arrest and departed.

Daily World

Later Blaine reported to his employer, Sam R. Holt, Jr., of 1137 Kenney, retail salesman at the Firestone Store at Third and Washington, that the police officers had taken $10 from him when they answered the call.

Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Holt sent Blaine to police Headquarters. He was interviewed there by Captain Jeffries and Inspector Dwyer and the two squad car officers summoned. Informed of the Negro's complaint, Officer Bryan struck the Negro, who was wearing glasses, in the right eye.

The officers then were ordered by Inspector Dwyer, a field officer to take the Negro to the hospital for treatment of his eye, which was bleeding. Officer Bryan admits losing his temper at accusation of the $10 theft and striking the Negro, according to the commissioner.

Blaine told the press at the hospital:

Sun. 5-23-48

"When the police came they told me to put up my hands and I did and they searched me. After they left I missed $10 from my wallet. I went down to see Mr. Holt at Firestone's where I work and told him the police had taken $10 from me. He said to go over to the police station and tell them over there.

"I did and the policemen talked to me and took me into a room. Then another one came in and talked to me and then two more policemen came in.

"One of them asked if I said he had taken $10 from me and I said yes, and he hit me. It happened so fast I don't know how it happened When he hit me I grabbed my eye and it was bleeding. I had my glasses on and they were broken. Then they took me out to the squad car and put me in the back, and one of the policemen sat beside me.

"We started driving off and then the one sitting next to me hit me in the back of the head with his blackjack and then he hit me in the face and then he hit me all over the stomach. I said to him, "Are you going to kill me?' and he said, 'I ought to kill you, you lying ....' Then he didn't hit me anymore 'til we got to the hospital. When we got there they took me by the arm and led me out of the car. I couldn't hardly see.

Daily World

"I was bleeding badly then. So he told me to go wash up my face, but I said I couldn't see, so he showed me where to wash up.

"Jump out of the auto?" he replied (in answer to the question if Blaine tried to escape before reaching the hospital) "No sir, I didn't jump out. I couldn't. I couldn't see to do that."

Atlanta, Ga.

ATTORNEY GERBER'S STATEMENT

"The assault upon Eli Blaine by Patrolmen Bryan and Brewer at Police Station was outrageous and contemptible, and those guilty of this cowardly offense will be vigorously prosecuted. We will not tolerate such conduct on the part of officers of the law, who are sworn to protect the lives and property of our citizens.

Sun. 5-23-48

"It makes no difference what position in life one may occupy, under our system of government he is entitled to full protection under the law. People may rest assured that as long as I am attorney general, police officers charged with commission of crimes of this nature will be prosecuted without fear or favor."

Discharge and subsequent arrest of Officers Bryan and Brewer is the second time within the past three years that policemen have.

This is the second time within the past three years that police officers have discharged and subsequently arrested for misconduct in handling Negroes. In August, 1945, two police officers were accused by two young Negro women of criminally assaulting them. The policemen picked the girls up on the pretense of suspicious character it is reported and took them out east on Union Extended instead of the police department. One of the

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Man Struck By Policeman Loses His Eye

The Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

Wed. 5-19-48

Memphis, Tenn., May 18 (AP)—A Negro who went to police headquarters to lodge a complaint was in the hospital today, and two white policemen were charged with assault to murder.

The victim, 30-year-old Ell Blaine, underwent surgery for the removal of his right eye. The hospital report said he also suffered many cuts.

The charges were filed against L. E. Bryan and Carl W. Brewer, squad-car officers, who were released under $1,000 bond each after pleading innocent in City Court. Both men were suspended.

Police Commissioner Joe Boyle said Blaine, at the advice of his white employer, went to headquarters Sunday to charge that $10 was taken from him by police during an investigation of a disturbance in his apartment.

The two squad-car officers were summoned before an inspector and another ranking officer, Boyle continued, and Blain repeated his charges. Then, the commissioner said, Bryan struck Blaine in the eye, shattering his spectacles.

5-19-48

Beating Charged to Two Policemen

(The Associated Press)

Memphis, Tenn., May 19.—A Negro who went to police headquarters to lodge a complaint was in the hospital today, and two white policemen were charged with assault to murder.

Thurs

The victim, 30-year-old Ell Blaine, underwent surgery for the removal of his right eye. The hospital report said he was also suffering from multiple lacerations.

The charges were filed against Squadcar Officer L. E. Bryan and Carl W. Brewer, who were released under $1000 bond each after pleading innocent in a city court arraignment. Both men were suspended from the force.

5-20-48

Police Commissioner Joe Boyle said Blaine, at the advice of his white employer, went to headquarters Sunday to charge that $10 was taken from him by police during an investigation of a disturbance in his apartment.

5-20-48

Memphis Police Sued For $20,000

The World

Atlanta Ga.

MEMPHIS, Tennessee —(SNS)— Eli Blaine, 20, 203 S. Lauderdale who lost completely one eye and may lose the other on account of the Police Officers L. E. Bryon, 25, 2595 Oxford and C. W. Brewer, 26, 937 Blythe, beating him, one officer striking him in the face and driving the eyeglasses which he was wearing into the ball of one eye. Tue. 6-29-48

These officers were suspended and arrested and will be tried in Chancellor Creson Court. Attorney General Will Gerber has announced that he will vigorously prosecute these men to the limit of the law for this heinous crime. Blaine is represented by Attorneys Harold R. Ratcliff and Pat Johnson. The civil case and the criminal case are separate of course. Blaine is asking relief of $20,000 from the police officers. Memphis is one of the few cities in the South that does not have Negro police in the Negro section. Tennessee, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Nashville have Negro police.

Ex-Cops Indicted For Mayhem In Memphis Beating

Defender

MEMPHIS— Two former Memphis police officers were indicted last week for mayhem in connection with the brutal beating of a 31-year old Negro, which caused him to lose an eye. Mayhem is the willful disfiguring of the body.

Chicago Ill

The mayhem indictments were asked by Atty. Gen. Will Gerber following leniency shown the two ex-policemen by a criminal court jury, when they were tried two weeks ago for assault and battery against the same victim.

Dismissed After Beating

The two former officers, C. W. Brewer, 26, and L. E. Bryan, 36 who were squad car partners, assaulted Ell Blaine several weeks ago. They were subsequently dismissed from the Memphis police force.

Sat

In the assault and battery case, Brewer was exonerated of guilt by the jury and Bryan was merely fined $51.

7-17-49

Dissatisfied with the jury verdict, Gerber said at the time he would seek mayhem indictments against both of the men.

He said he would press prosecution of this charge against both ex-policemen.

Policeman Fined for Blinding Man

The Afro-American

MEMPHIS (ANP) — One ex-policeman was fined $51 for assault and battery, and another freed after hours of deliberation by a jury here for beating and blinding Ell Blaine, 30, a prisoner in their charge. Both men had been fired from the city's police force after the attack on Blaine. Sat.

Lonnie E. Bryan, 35, was found guilty, and Carl W. Brewer, 26, was found innocent of the charges. Bryant has also been indicted for mayhem in connection with the blinding of the man. 7-10-48

The incident occurred May 16, when, as police officers, Bryan and Brewer, answering a disturbance call, arrested Blaine. After being freed, Blaine complained to his employed that the officers had taken $10 from him; then he reported it to the police station.

Was Wearing Glasses

At the station, he accused the policemen of theft in their presence. Without any warning, Bryan struck Blaine, who was wearing glasses, in the eye, causing him to reel across the floor and the glasses to break and cut him in the eyes. Baltimore, Md

Police Inspector Dwyer ordered the patrolmen to take Blaine to the hospital. During the trip to the hospital, the men blackjacked and clubbed him. He was a bleeding mess when he arrived at the Gaston Hospital. Later, his right eye had to be taken out.

SECOND EX-POLICEMAN IS CITED FOR MAYHEM

Commercial Appeal

Brewer Also Faces Charge On Negro's Beating

Memphis, Tenn.

C. W. Brewer, 26-year-old former Memphis police officer, was indicted yesterday by the Shelby County Grand Jury for mayhem. An indictment has already been returned against his squad car partner, L. E. Bryan, 36, of 2595 Oxford. Mayhem is the willful disfiguring of the body. Wed. 7-7-48

A Criminal Court jury last week cleared Brewer of a charge of assault and battery in the Ell Blaine beating case and fined Bryan $51.

Blaine, 31-year-old negro of 203 South Lauderdale, charged the former police officers caused the loss of his eye through beating.

Disatisfied with the jury verdict, Atty. Gen. Will Gerber anounced last week he would seek the mayhem indictment against Brewer. He said he would press prosecution of this charge against both the former officers. Brewer lives at 937 Blythe.

Cop Indicted for Blinding Suspect

Jet

MEMPHIS—(ANP)—One ex-policeman was fined $51 for assault and battery and another freed after hours of deliberation by a jury in Memphis for beating and blinding a Negro prisoner in their charge, Ell Blaine, 30.

Both men had been fired from the city's police force after the attack on the colored man.

Lonnie E. Bryan, 35, was found guilty, and Carl W. Brewer, 26, was found innocent of the charges. Bryant has also been indicted for mayhem in connection with the blinding of the Negro.

Fine for Causing Loss of Eye Is $51

Times-Picayune

New Orleans

(The Associated Press)

Memphis, Tenn., July 1. — A former policeman was fined $51 today on an assault and battery charge brought after a Negro claimed he was struck in the police station and beaten en route to a hospital for treatment.

A jury found Lonnie E. Bryan, 35, guilty of assault and battery on Ell Blaine. Carl W. Brewer, 26, another former officer, was acquitted. The defense did not ask a new trial. Fri. 7-2-48

Blaine lost his right eye after the incident May 16. Bryan is under indictment for mayhem in connection with that wound.

The state charged Bryan hit the Negro after he complained to Bryan's superior that $10 was taken from him during police investigation of a disturbance. It charged he was beaten later en route to the hospital.

Bryan admitted he hit Blaine in the station. But both ex-officers denied Blaine was beaten later. They said he fell from the car.

Police Commissioner Joe Boyle termed the verdict "outrageous . . . a miscarriage of justice." He said neither man would be reinstated.

Memphis World

Memphis Police Sued For $20,000

Tues. 6-29-48

Eli Blaine, 20, 203 S. Lauderdale who lost completely one eye and may lose the other on account of the Police Officers L. E. Bryon, 25, 2595 Oxford and C. W. Brewer, 26, 937 Blythe, beating him, one officer striking him in the face and driving the eyeglasses which he was wearing into the ball of one eye. 6-29-48

These officers were suspended and arrested and will be tried in Chancellor Creson Court. Attorney General Will Gerber has announced that he will vigorously prosecute these men to the limit of the law for this heinous crime. Blaine is represented by Attorneys Harold R. Ratcliff and Pat Johnson. The civil case and the criminal case are separate of course. Blaine is asking relief of $20,000 from the police officers. Memphis is one of the few cities in the South that does not have Negro police in the Negro section. Tennessee, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Nashville have Negro police.

Police Brutality -

Memphis World

Not since 1932 when more than a dozen Negroes were killed by police officers have there been such a wave of police brutality incidents involving Negroes as victims. Not only Negroes but fair-minded white citizens have become alarmed over the situation. This sort of thing cannot continue without setting the stage for race trouble on a grand scale.

It has become apparent that the courts under the present jury system are not adequate to cope with the situation. Just last week two officers were tried in criminal court on an assault to murder charge in connection with the brutal handling of a Negro. They had virtually confessed to their crime, and acts unbecoming officers. Their victim was not a law-violator, but a citizen who had gone to the police station to make a complaint. Instead he suffered such a terrible abuse it became necessary to have his right eye removed. And yet, in spite of preponderance of evidence, the jury in this case set one of the former policemen free, and let the other go with a fine of only fifty-one dollars ($51).

Fri 7-9-48

Memphis, Tenn.

The very next day a Negro woman, whose eyes had been closed by two police officers who savagely attacked her in their squad car on the pretense that she was resisting arrest, was fined $78.00 in City Court. . .Twenty-seven dollars more than the ex-policeman received on a felony charge in criminal court. Something is fundamentally wrong when justice takes this sort of course.

One of the major remedies for this condition would be employment of Negro policemen—and now! Memphis has not a single good reason for not putting Negroes on the force. This community would not even be breaking any precedents by doing so, because other southern cities have already set the pace. Atlanta, Savannah, Miami, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, Little Rock, and Dallas, to name a few.

Fri 7-9-48

Sending the young "hotheads" now on the force to police Negro areas is just bad police business. The majority of these rookie officers are out to make a reputation, and they think the way to do so is to start using blackjacks on the heads of Negroes. Usually when they are trained in this fashion the ultimate result is always race trouble. And that's just what is brewing in Memphis now.

13e

Denies Woman $3000 Damages Against Police

Argus

Saint Louis Mo

MEMPHIS (ANP) — Aidelaid Hudson, 23, lost her suit for $3,000 against two Memphis policemen whom she charged with beating her brutally without cause after arresting her some weeks ago. The two white policemen, W. L. Williams and I. S. Lawrence, claimed Miss Hudson was insulting and abusive and defied them to arrest her apparently indicating these were sufficient reasons for beating her. Argus. Saint Louis

A jury heard the case in circuit court and found for the policemen. The local NAACP had collected money to enable the suit to be filed, as part of an effort to halt the vicious brutality of Memphis police.

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2 Policemen Held in Blinding of Man

Afro American

Baltimore Md.

Memphis Prosecutor Promises Conviction

HAD GLASSES ON

Employer Describes Beating at Station

MEMPHIS (ANP)—Two policemen, accused of beating and blinding a colored man, have been jailed and will be prosecuted on charges with assault to murder, Attorney General Gerber announced here this week. 5-29-48

The victim, Ell Blaine, 30, is now resting in "fair condition" at John Gaston Hospital. As a result of his beating, he has suffered lacerations of the left eye and eyebrow, causing a hemorrhage, lacerations of the scalp and multiple lacerations.

His right eye had to be removed six hours after arrival in the hospital because one policeman hit him in the eye with his glasses on.

The accused policemen are L. E. Bryan, 35, and Carl W. Brewer, 26. Their bond is set at $1000 each. They were jailed following investigation by Inspector Wiebenga of the police homicide bureau.

Prosecution Promised

Attorney General Gerber termed the assault at the police station "outrageous and contemptible, and promised that those guilty of this cowardly offense will be vigorously prosecuted. 5-29-48

"We will not tolerate such conduct upon the part of officers of the law, who are sworn to protect the lives and property of our citizens," he added.

"It makes no difference what position in life one may occupy under our system of government he is entitled to full protection under the law."

Commissioner Boyle, also outraged over the incident, added that Bryan would also be charged with mayhem (disfiguring a victim of an attack) if further investigation reveals that his blow caused removal of the eyeball.

Missed $10 After Search

The story of the incident went as follows:

Blaine was visiting his sister, Mrs. Douglass Bennett, at her apartment in the same building in which he lived, when Officers Bryan and Brewer came there in answer to a disturbance call.

This being early in the morning, police told them that further complaints would result in arrests.

Missing $10 after the officers had searched him and left, Blaine reported the loss to his employer, Sam R. Holt Jr of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. Holt advised him to go to the police station. 5-29-48

He spoke to Captain Jeffries and Inspector Dwyer, who called in the two squad car officers. Hearing the accusation, Bryan struck Blaine, who had glasses on, in the right eye. As the eye started bleeding, Inspector Dwyer ordered the policemen to take Blaine to the hospital. 5-29-48

No Signs That He "Rolled"

Between leaving the station and arriving at the hospital, Blaine suffered the injuries.

Here, his story and the officers' story conflict. He said they beat him on the way to the hospital, but they said he tried to jump out of the car and escape and suffered the lacerations from falling on the concrete.

Commissioner Boyle, however, said inspection of Blaine's clothes revealed no signs that he had "rolled over and over" on the concrete.

According to the commissioner, the hospital found more than $14 in Blaine's pockets, but his employer, Holt, and he both insist he had only $5 before going to the police station.

Newspaper men speculated as to whether the money may have been placed in his pockets on the way to the hospital.

Employer Backs Him Up

Blaine, in his hospital bed, told policemen and newspaper men that the two officers beat him so he could hardly see when he got to the hospital. One sat next to him on the ride and beat him with a blackjack.

Holt told newspapermen and City Atty. Frank Gianotti Jr., in Commissioner Boyle's office that he saw Bryan hit Blaine in the police station. He said: "When he hit him, Blaine tried to run but he ran into the wall of the room."

He added that one of them also "shook him around" as they took him to the squad car. Holt said he did not want to cause any trouble for the policemen.

Police Officers On Trial For Brutalizing Negro

13e Memphis World, Tenn

State and defense attorneys in the trial of the two former police officers charged with asault to murder and beating of a Negro man, Ell Blaine, were charging the jury late Wednesday afternoon as the case neared its conclusion. The case tried in Second Criminal Court, marked the second time within three years that two police officers had been dismissed from the force, and subsequently indicted for acts of miss-treatment of Negroes. In 1945, two officers were charged with criminal assault on two Colored girls. 7-3-48

Greenfield Polk, assistant in the attorney general's office started the state's argument to the jury, in the trial of L. E. Bryant and C. W. Brewer, charged with assault to murder— beating Ell Blaine, Negro employe of the Firestone Service Station, at 4:05 p. m. the second day of the trial.

The state has rested its case at 4:30 Tuesday afternoon after presenting its two strongest witnesses, Dr. John E. Carne and Dr. John T. Walsh of John Gaston Hospital where Blaine was taken for treatment by the two officers for treatment of his left eye. Officer Bryant was charged with having struck Blaine on the jaw, when the service station employe accused the officer of having taken $10 from his wallet when he was searched by the officer at 203 South Lauderdale, his home.

The defense attorneys, Preston Battle for Bryant, and Robert G. Watkins for Brewer, limited their questions to: 7-2-48

"Could the wounds have been caused by any blunt instrument?"

And the physicians replies were a slow and hesitating—It is posible."

Charles Rond, assistant attorney general, and Mr. Polk asked the physicians what in their opinion, was the instrument used to inflict Blaine's wounds, and to explain to the jury what happened and in what manner Blaine was received at the hospital.

Dr. Carne stated that he was in the receiving room when Blaine was brought in by the police officers, after midnight on May 15.

The physicians said that Blaine's right eye was protruding on the cheek. That there was also an injury below the right eye and over the left eye, and two cuts on the back of his head. Dr. Walsh later removed the right eye, as he said it was impossible to save it. Both resident doctors of the hospital said that the type of the man's wounds indicated he had been struck "with force" with a blunt instrument. Both stated that they found no trace of glass or foreign matter in Blaine eyes. 7-2-48

Dr. Carne under cross examination by Mr. Battle, said he smelled alcohol on the defendants breath but that he was not drunk, in his opinion.

w The defending attorneys line of questioning throughout the trial indicated that they would plead self defense for their clients, and that they hoped to prove Blaine was injured when he tried to escape from the officers' car as they entered the hospital grounds.

The trial opened Monday and the entire day was consumed in selecting the jury.

The first witness for the Prosecution Tuesday Morning was Ell Blaine who was questioned by Charles Rond, assistant attorney general.

Blaine, a rather small man and little if any over five feet tall related his activities of the night of May 15. He said that he and his wife and her sister and husband had attended a picture show about 8 o'clock that evening. Later the two men had bought a pint of whiskey and the four had visited the Harlem cafe after whch they returned home. They occupy apartment 6, at the Lauderdale address, and there was a disturbance going on in apartment 7, across the hall.

Blaine was called into apartment 7, to quite a woman occupant and while there the officers, Bryant and Brewer entered. Blaine testified that the officers ordered hands up, and Blaine stated that he raised his hands while officer Bryant "patted him down". Blaine stated that officers told every one who was not an occupant of the apartment to go home, and for the occupants to go to bed. That, if they had to return they would arrest all of them.

Blaine said that upon returning to his room, he removed his wallet from the back hip pocket and found the $10 he had put in it for safe keeping, was gone, but that he had a $5 in his front right shirt pocket. He said he was facing the wall with his back to the officers and that he didn't know which one had "patted him down" and searched his billfold."

How much money did you have when the officers "patted you down" asked attorney Rond.

"I had $15. and 15 cents worth of change— a $10 bill in my billfold, $5 in my shirt pocket and 15 cents in my left back pocket."

When I found my $10 was gone I went to room 4 in the same building and called Mr. Sam Holt at the Firestone station and told him about my money. He told me he was busy and to come down to the station. He was there and his son, Mr. Jack Holt, was there too. I told Mr. Sam what had happened. He wanted to see if I was lying, and made me turn my pockets out. Then he ran his hand in my shirt pocket and pulled out my $5 bill. He said 'here's your money Blaine' I told him that wasn't the money I was talking about. I owed the $10 on a note I had to pay. I was saving it for that purpose so I wouldn't spend it."

"Mr. Sam wanted to know if I still wanted to call the oficers. I said, yes. He called and a settled man with braid on his cap and a young man in a squad car, came. I went to the car and talked with the settled man. I told him I was searched and missed $10. He told me to see Capt. Jefferies. I went to the police station and talked to Mr. Capt. Jefferies. I told him what had happened. He looked in my pocketbook, and called another officer, Inspector Dwyer."

"I went to another room and talked to Inspector Dwyer. Then he called the police who were at apartment 6 on Lauderdale street. Inspector Dwyer asked them did they get the call to Lauderdale Street, they said yes. He said 'this boy accuses you of taking his money. One of them asked did I accuse them. I said, yes. One of them struck me, I don't know which one. I was looking at Inspector Dwyer. I grabbed my face, as the blow threw me against the wall, and my glasses fell off and I heard something break.

As the attorney presented the pair of eye glasses, with the left lens broken, but the right lens intact, it was still unexplained how Blaine came to lose his right eye.

I fell over when I was hit. My glasses disappeared— I don't know what happened to them at the time.

"The Inspector said 'take him out' One of the policemen said let us out the side door. One had me by the belt and I had my hands up. They put me in the squad car, and one got in the back seat with me. They started driving. When I got to the hospital I didn't know where I was. I couldn't see."

Mr. Rond asked Blaine what he said to the officers as they left the station. Blaine said "I asked them if they were going to kill me?" They said they ought to kill me and told me, "You won't talk no more." On the way to the hospital, they whipped me across my head and across my lap. I'd move my hands up and down, trying to protect myself." Blaine indicated with his hands how he moved them from over his face to his lap.

"Did you try to get out of the car after you left the police station," asked Mr. Rond.

"No, sir."

"Did you fall out of the squad car or try to jump out?"

"No, sir— I was sitting in one corner."

"What were you hit with?"

"They hit me with some sort of hand instrument. They couldn't have hit that hard with their hands. The doctor told me he could save one eye but not the other one.

Dr. Carne testified that while Blaine was on the table, he asked him to look in his vest pocket and get a $5 bill that was in the pocket and keep it for his wife. The physicians said he explained to Blaine that doctors and nurses could not take patients money, that he would have to turn it in at the desk. He said he then gave the five dollar bill to Blaine, but when he took it out of the pocket he discovered a wad of money n his pocket which proved to be $9.10. He said Blaine told him that was not his money. That he only had $5 in his pocket. All the money was turned into the hospital desk.

On questioning, Dr. Carne testified that sometime later, perhaps an hour, the two police officers returned to the hospital and asked about the money found in Blaine's pocket.

Bryant took the stand Wednesday morning. He denied the charges made by Blaine, and stated that he and Brewer returned to the hospital when they received a call through the police station that officer Turner, stationed at the hosital wanted to see them about the money found in Blaine's shirt pocket.

Inspector Dwyer related the incident at the police station when Blaine accused the officers of takink his money, and said that Blaine told several conflicting stories about the money, and even accused Inspector Dwyer, or rather gave the impression that he was involved in the disappearance of the $10 by saying 'You know all about it."

Blaine stated that he had been arrested once for being drunk and once for gambling But said he had never served time in the workhouse.

C. W. Brewer followed Bryant on the witness stand and gave much the same version as Bryant of how Blaine received the injury that cost him his right eye.

Both officers testified that as they neared the entrance, that Blaine lunged forward pushing down the front seat to reach the front door of the car, and fell out of the car on the concrete drive. They stated that they picked him up by the arms, but didn't notice his new injuries until they had reached the inside of the hospital.

They stated that at no time did Blaine cover his face with his hands not even to wipe the blood from the left side of his face which started bleeding at the police station.

Blaine's white stripped pants was exhibited but showed no signs of dirt or tear from his fall on the concrete, and his light green shirt was soaked in blood— front and back

THE JURY

The jury selecton was completed late Tuesday. Members of the jury are:

W. E. Bibgee, carpenter, 3751 Fair Oaks.

Andrew C. Jennings, International Harvester Co., employe, 2680 Dunn.

M L Bell, operator Bell Transfer Co., 137 N. Willett.

J. P. Vaughn, Cold Press Mill, 2022 Young.

R. L. McConnell, American Fidelity & Casualty Insurance Co., 98 N. McLean.

J. V. Tillman. interior decorator, 922 New York.

Elbert A. Bond, student, Southern College of Watchmaking, 3524 Kallaher.

C. H. Alexander, general contractor, 3611 Macon Road.

John T. McCutchen, employe Pidgeon-Thomas Iron Co., 1010 Brooks.

J. W. Eaton, Railway Express chauffeur, 373 Hollywood.

Linsey E Smith, Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., plant employe, 520 Eastern Drive.

Fred P. Marshall, barber shop operator, 1430 Jefferson.

Indict Policemen in Blinding of Man

MEMPHIS—The Shelby County grand jury last Tuesday indicted two white policemen, accused of beating and blinding Ell Blaine, 30, who charged that money was taken from him during a police investigation of a disturbance.

The accused officers, L. E. Bryan, 35, and Carl W. Brewer, 26, were indicted on mayhem charges (disfiguring a victim of an attack), the outgrowth of the loss of the right eye by Blaine.

Both were suspended from the force pending trial.

Multiple Lacerations

Blaine, who was in "fair condition" at John Gaston Hospital last week, also suffered lacerations of the left eye and eyebrow, lacerations of the scalp and other multiple lacerations in the attack.

His right eye had to be removed six hours after arrival at the hospital because one policeman hit him in the eye with his glasses on.

Attorney General Gerber, who promised that those guilty of the assault would be vigorously prosecuted, described the attack as "outrageous and contemptible."

Police Commissioner Joe Boyle also deplored the attack.

Stories Differ

According to reports, Blaine was visiting his sister's apartment when Officers Bryan and Brewer answered a disturbance call. After the officers searched him and left, Blaine discovered he was missing $10, and reported the loss to his employer, who advised him to go to the police station.

At the police station, the officers allegedly beat him upon learning that he had made such a complaint. He was also allegedly beaten en route to the hospital, though the officers contend that he injured himself while attempting to escape.

Woman Attacked By Police, Fined $78 In City Court

Memphis World - Fri 7-9-48

After being viciously attacked by two police officers in their squad car, resulting in both of her eyes being closed, Mrs. Viola Moore, 35, of 1009 Madison avenue (Rear) received "three more socks" in City Court when her case was brought before Judge Sellers Friday morning. She was fined $25.00 and costs on each of three charges, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, and disturbing the peace.

Attorney Charles Johnston, who represented Mrs. Moore, appealed the fines of $78.00 to Circuit Court. He refused to let her tetsify.

Mrs. Moore appeared in court with her left eye closed and her right eye discolored. She told reporters of the press after her hearing that staff surgeons at John Gaston Hospital had advised an operation on her left eye, but that she had refused.

Memphis World

Officers Frank Scott and Barney Lefton, Jr., testified that Mrs. Moore was arrested on complaint of Richard Challenor, white, operator of the cafe at 823 Jefferson, in the afternoon of June 19, at 4:15. Challenor said the woman had been drinking and creating a disturbance in his cafe.

The officers added that enroute to the jail Mrs. Moore kicked forward the front seat. Loftin said he was knocked against the steering wheel and the police car hit the curb before he could apply the emergency brakes. Stott said Mrs. Moore slapped and kicked him, and that it was necessary to use force to subdue her.

Fri 7-9-48

Mrs. Moore denied the officers' story. She said that when they called at the cafe it was to settle a minor misunderstanding she had had with one of the waiters concerning the charge for meal. She had contended that she had paid for the meal. The waitress said she didn't and had Challenor, operator of the cafe, to call the police.

As the officers were carrying her to the squad car, Mrs. Moore said that she attempted to explain that she was not guilty of any charge.

One of the policemen slapped her as she said, "Mr. Officer, "in an apparent attempt to explain her side of the story. Enroute to the police station, Mrs. Moore said that she lighted a cigarette, and one of the officers, Frank Stott, knocked the cigarette out of her mouth with the statement, "Don't smoke in this car, you black————" He continued to abuse her, declaring. "You look like one of those smart, black—

It was then, Mrs. Moore said, that Scott went into a rage, struck her repeatedly, including blows in her stomach. She said that she began to scream, and Scott, as the car neared police headquarters, called to his partner. Officer Loftin to help stop her from screaming. Mrs. Moore said Loftin Struck her over the head with the butt of his pistol.

Fri 7-9-48

"They took me to the hospital after I began to cough up blood," Mrs. Moore said. She vigorously denied having resisted arrest a single time while she was in custody of the officers.

Fining of Mrs. Moore in City Court came the following day after a criminal court jury brought in a verdict of not guilty for Carl W. Brewer, and gave his partner, Lonnie E. Bryan, a light fine of $51.00 on a conviction of assault and battery. Both former police officers had been charged and indicted on an assault to murder charge in connection with an attack on a Negro employe of Firtstone, Elaine, who lost his right eye as the result of the attack which occurred in police headquarters.

The Worker N.Y.

Houston Beating Bared At Meeting for Ingrams

Sun. 4-4-48

HOUSTON, Tex.—One of the most spirited and militant meetings in recent years was held here March 22, when more than 100 Negro and white people crowded into the CIO Food and Tobacco Workers Hall to cheer speakers and take action on the case of Mrs. Rosa Ingram and her 'teen age boys, sentenced to the electric chair in Ellaville, Georgia.

Led by a Negro worker who went forward to empty his pockets of $17.80 in response to an appeal for funds, the crowd contributed $140 in the collection.

The meeting voiced approval not only of wires to Gov. M. E. Thompson of Georgia and President Truman demanding they save Mrs. Ingram's life and freedom, but also of messages to Governor Jester of Texas asking him to make good on his declaration that "the South could take care of its problems" by intervening in the Ingram case, and an appeal to the United Nations to step in and prevent a crime against humanity.

MRS. LULA WHITE, State Director of Branches of the NAACP, related the Ingram case to the spreading terror against the Negro people in Texas.

She told a case which just happened in Houston, when a Negro country boy, staring in fascination at the escalator in Foley's Department store, was seized by two policemen, accused of staring at white women, and beaten on the spot until drenched in blood.

One white customer, a woman, was rougher up when she tried to stop the brutal blows raining on the boy.

On the spot a large Negro and white delegation was elected to visit the department store management, the police chief, and also the newspapers locally, which have maintained an iron curtain against news of the struggle to save the Ingrams.

Sun. 4-4-48

OTHER SPEAKERS included James Merrell, well-known NMU seaman; Mr. Day of the National Postal Workers Alliance; O. Foster, student at Rice Institute; Herman B. Hughes, Executive Sec'y of the Harris County Wallace for President Committee; Moses Leroy, RR workers and NAACP leader: and Heman Sweatt, Negro applicant for admission to the University of Texas.

Jacqueline Nelson, Business Agent of Local 75 of the Food and Tobacco Workers, CIO, presided.

The Committee sponsoring the meeting consisted of representatives of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and the Houston NAACP. It was decided to enlarge the Committee, which was done by adding the speakers and other persons from the audience.

Police Beat Youth Alleged To Have Bumped Passer-By

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

HOUSTON—(ANP)— A difference of opinion seems to exist between two groups of white citizens as to whether a young Negro was the victim of police brutality for allegedly having bumped women passing on the stairs of a downtown department store here last week. One group claims the boy was mistreated, while the other group sided with the two detectives and claimed the arrest was in accordance with the law.

Sat 4-3-48

According to Detectives W. L. McKaskle and J. O. Graddy, several women had complained to them that the youth was standing at the foot of the stairs, bumping women as they passed. The detectives said they went over to question the boy, but that he attempted to run. When they grabbed him, he "fought like a tiger."

"PITCHED IN"

Agreeing with the detectives were Lee Hillon, white parking lot attendant and M. Simpson, also white, an employe of City National bank. The two men accompanied the police to jail with the boys. They said they pitched in to help the detectives because the youth was fighting hard and "loeked like he might get away."

However, Mrs. Kathleen E. Houston and J. H. Ashworth, a premed student at the University of Houston, declared that the detectives beat the boy, twisted his arms and stepped on his feet after his shoes came off. The parking lot attendant was accused of striking the boy while he was being held by the detectives. Mrs. Houston said the police refused to tell her why they were arresting the youth, and that women in the store pleaded with men to help the victim.

Sat 4-3-48

Judge Flays Trigger-Happy Deputy, but Sets No Damages

The Afro American

LITTLE ROCK — (ANP) — Though Federal Judge Trimble termed the shooting of a man who was watching a dice game when officers sought to break it up, as "one of the most dastardly crimes ever committed by men who pretend to be officers," he nevertheless ruled for the defendants, in a suit against them for $15,000 damages. Victim of the shooting was a man named Smith, who was shot by an alleged deputy sheriff in Dallas County last June in an affray near Carthage.

Baltimore, Md.

"This man was not even treated like a human being," Judge Trimble declared. "He was treated like a dog. Officers who are clothed with power are supposed to conserve and protect the public peace, not destroy it. The law does not give any man the right to shoot a man who has committed a misdemeanor, unless in defense of his own life. If officers are permitted to shoot people like dogs, we might as well adopt the methods of Nazi Germany."

Negro May Lose Right Eye After Brutal Police Beating

The Worker

By John Stanford

HOUSTON.—Cleophus Doyle, 21, may lose the sight of his right eye for life. He is the latest victim of the Houston police.

Doyle had gotten into a scuffle with a friend, Gene Flowers, in front of the Pladium Bowling Lanes, where both worked. Three River Oaks police drove up, supposedly to stop the fight. One fired a shot in the air. Another began hitting Doyle in the mouth and the eye, and kicked and struck him in the stomach. Doyle was hit so hard in the mouth that a tooth cut all the way through his upper lip.

"Just like the gestapo," was the comment of the physician at the North Side Clinic. The physician sent Doyle to an eye specialist in the Medical Arts Building. According to the specialist, there is only a chance that Doyle will ever be able to use his eye again.

ALMOST EVERY WEEK there is at least one new case of brutality by the Houston police, often more. The Negro people suffer the brunt of this brutality, but the beating of whites is becoming more common.

Many Houstonians have protested this gestapo-like brutality of the Police Department. And their protests have born some fruit. Earlier in the year two officers were suspended for a brief period. Several times the Chief of Police has publicly reprimanded different officers after the use of "excessive" brutality. Nevertheless, the brutality has continued unabated.

Many hundreds more must be heard from, until the voice of the people of Houston becomes an angry roar, demanding that police brutality come to a halt. Protests should be directed to Mayor Oscar Holcombe and to Chief of Police B. W. Payne.

Sun. 12-26-48

Cops Beat Youth For "Bumping" Passing Women

Black Dispatch

HOUSTON — (ANP) — A difference of opinion seems to exist between two groups of white citizens as to whether a young Negro was the victim of police brutality for allegedly having bumped women passing on the stairs of a downtown department store here last week. One group claims the boy was mistreated, while the other group sided with two detectives and claimed the arrest was in accordance with the law.

Oklahoma City, Okla.

According to Detectives W. L. McKaskle and J. O. Graddy, several women had complained to them that the youth was standing at the foot of the stairs, bumping women as they passed. The detectives said they went over to question the boy, but that he attempted to run. When they grabbed him, he "fought like a tiger."

Agreeing with the detectives were Lee Hillon, white parking lot attendant and M. Simpson, also white, an employe of City National bank. The two men accompanied the police to jail with the boy. They said they pitched in to help the detectives because the youth was fighting hard and "looked like he might get away."

However, Mrs. Kathleen E. Houston and J. H. Ashworth, a pre-med student at the University of Houston, declared that the detectives beat the boy, twisted his arms and stepped on his feet after his shoes came off. The parking lot attendant was accused of striking the boy while he was being held by the detectives. Mrs. Houston said the police refused to tell her why they were arresting the youth, and that women in the store pleaded with men to help the victim.

NAACP Seeking To Combat Local Police Beatings

Journal + Guide

1-31-48

Norfolk, Va.

NORFOLK—The local branch of the NAACP is continuing a follow-up on several recent cases of alleged unwarranted beatings of Negro prisoners by Norfolk police officers.

Sat.

The latest case to come to the attention of the branch was that of William Morris, coal trimmer, of 1436 W. 43rd street, who was arrested on the early morning of Jan. 1 while returning from church watch meeting.

Morris was taken into custody on a disorderly conduct charge, and witnesses claim that the officer making the arrest hit him and knocked him down without cause. Morris charges that while in the police wagon enroute to the station he was so severely beaten by the officer that as a result of his injuries he was confined in the Marine Hospital for 10 days.

1-31-48

Released from the hospital, he was arraigned in police court Tuesday morning, Jan. 13, on charges of assaulting a police officer and disorderly conduct. He was represented by Broudy and Broudy, retained by the International Longshoremen's Association Union here, and Victor J. Ashe, member of the local NAACP legal staff.

Justice Leonard H. Davis, finding the man, swathed in bandages and splints guilty, fined him $10 on the disorderly conduct charge and $50 on the assault charge. An appeal was noted.

The trouble is reported to have started as Morris was passing the restaurant of an acquaintance on Powhatan avenue in which two sisters, daughters of the proprietor were fighting. The father, unable to quell the disturbance, summoned the police. Meantime, Morris, a passerby, intervened in an effort to separate the fighting girls.

Journal + Guide

Police arrived on the scene, and started after Morris, who explained that he was not involved in the fight, but being acquainted with the girls, was merely trying to separate them.

Following an exchange of words between the officer and Morris, the officer, according to spectators, hit Morris, knocking him down. The coal trimmer alleges that the beating was continued while he was in custody in the wagon.

Up until the last of the week, he still had been unable to return to work.

Norfolk, Va.

Two previous cases of alleged assault by police officers on Negro prisoners are listed by the local NAACP, one includes that of the proprietor of a Brambleton avenue cleaning and pressing shop who charges that his arm was broken by police officers while he was under arrest in the police station.

Sat.

Jerry O. Gilliam, NAACP executive secretary, says his organization is outlining strategy to combat what is considered unwarranted attacks by police upon defenseless Negro citizens.

1-31-48

13f 1948

Alabama

22 Escape Alabama Prisons; 18 Captured And 11 Are Flogged

The News

Birmingham, Ala.

Four Still At Large After Week Of Bold Breaks By Convicts

Sat 1-3-48

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 3—(AP)—Twenty-two Alabama convicts escaped from prisons and road camps during the past week, Prison Director Frank Boswell said, but 18 were back behind bars today.

The director said 11 of the escapees had been given 15 lashes each, adding that in the future "extreme" escape cases would be flogged instead of given court trial and additional sentences.

He listed the escapes as follows: Fifteen convicts fled from Draper Prison at Speigner in two mass breaks Monday and Tuesday. Two are still at large. The News

Four prisoners escaped from Atmore early in the week. All were recaptured shortly after the break.

A Negro escaped from a road camp at Auburn. He was caught almost at once. 1-3-48

A Negro fled from the Childersburg road camp and is still at liberty. Birmingham, Ala.

A trusty at Kilby Prison escaped New Year's Day. He is still free.

The latest capture in the Draper escapes was that of Eldridge Duke, 22, of Calhoun County, serving two years for grand larceny. St. Clair County officers picked Duke up yesterday, Boswell said. Sat.

The prison director identified the Childersburg road camp Negro as Willie B. Moore, of Elmore County, serving seven years for arson. He said James A. O'Neal, of Etowah County, serving two two-year terms for forgery, was the Kilby trusty who escaped.

The two Draper convicts still at large were identified as Olo Edmonds, 22, of Tuscaloosa County, three years for grand larceny; and G. W. Hendrix, 23, of Tuscaloosa County, three years for arson.

Boswell said he would talk with Gov. Folsom in an effort to get the chief executive to rescind his order banning the lash except in "extreme" cases. 1-3-48

"I've got to do something," he explained. "So many of them won't respond to good treatment."

Treatment Of Convicts

To the Editor of The News:

Some time ago a report was made to the effect that Alabama convicts were brutally flogged upon small provocation, and that some of these floggings were formally authorized and some were not. And moral conditions were terrible. Drug addiction prevailed and sexual perversion was much more frequent than should occur in a well-regulated prison. A more recent statement in the public prints states that conditions are now practically the same. The News

Doubtless it is very hard to control men who are secluded because habitual crime and vice render them a danger to society when at large. But, no doubt, there are some who can be rehabilitated and fitted to lead decent lives of beneficent industry, thereby redeeming themselves and supporting their poor, helpless families. Miracles can happen—and do! But there are not many of the type of Victor Hugo's character, Jean Valjean, in "Les Miserables." Prison discipline should be of such a character as to give room for hope and open a way of reformation to all—even though few have the moral strength to profit by it. "An evil councilor is despair." Birmingham

Brutality is no cure for brutality. It is shocking to hear of an insane women being subjected to the punishment known as the "doghouse," which apparently is something like a coffin, but has some ventilation. Ala.

Every prisoner, whether he surrenders voluntarily or is arrested by officers, is then the ward of the state, and the state should be his guardian against any unauthorized, and therefore illegal, punishment. Tues. 5-25-48

Other states maintain discipline without the use of the lash in institutions which compare favorably with ours. We can do as well as they can. We have as good material for guards and officers as they have. We should offer such inducements in the way of salaries and retirement pensions as will justify our best men in remaining in service and will attract replacements of equally good personnel.

All this will cost money and patient effort. **But a criminal, in jail or out, is not only a** great expense but a constant source of moral infection to the community. If we can rehabilitate such as are capable of reformation, society will be doubly benefited—one criminal less, one good citizen more. Is it worth while?

ARCHIBALD LEISHMAN.

2718 North 16th Court. Tues. 5-25-48

EXTRADITION CALLED OFF

The Commercial Appeal

Negro Says Prison Officials Loosed Dogs On Him

Memphis, Tenn.

PITTSBURGH, June 28.—(UP)—An escaped negro prisoner's extradition to Alabama was held up at the last minute Monday when he charged that prison officials loosed 16 "ferocious" dogs on him for a "minor" rule infringement at a Montgomery jail. Tues.

The charge was emphatically denied by Alabama prison officials.

Gov. James A. Dunn had already signed removal papers for Ulysses Gibson, 22, but Judge Frank P. Patterson allowed the negro a habeas corpus hearing, to be held Wednesday. 6-29-48

Gibson charged that he also received 21 lashes on the back and shortly thereafter escaped, coming north to Pittsburgh. He was arrested here recently.

Convict Flogged After Blow That Cost Eye, Report

B'ham News

B'ham, Ala.

Lashed And Put Back To Work, His Injury Neglected, Allegation

Sun-12-5-48

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
News Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 4—When the prison investigating committee settles down to the closing stages of its investigations, probably early in January, chances are a new allegation of prison brutality will be added to the expanding list of those it has received.

The latest case is one in which a Negro convict suffered the loss of an eye, allegedly as a result of a blow on the head by a stick wielded by a guard and of failure by prison authorities to administer medical aid. Sun-12-5-48

The victim, Anderson Henley, of Birmingham, at the time his eye was injured was working with a road gang at Camp Troy.

Although Henley received the eye injury Aug. 16 and his eye was finally removed a month later, the case apparently was a well-guarded secret until a few days ago.

* * *

Check Is Made

AFTER RECEIVING A LETTER reporting the Henley case and making a check this week, this is what was found:

The guard who struck the prisoner charged he did so in self-defense after the prisoner allegedly attacked him.

A heavy walking-stick with a curved handle was used.

The sharp point of the handle reportedly struck the Negro's eye and dug deeply into the socket.

Immediately thereafter, it was reported, the prisoner was flogged—15 lashes—and then ordered back to work with his gang.

A doctor presumably was present when the prisoner was flogged. The law requires a physician's presence when corporal punishment is administered.

The prisoner, however, is said to have received no medical attention whatever, for his injured eye.

Reports are the eye could have been saved if medical aid had been available, but the first time the prisoner received treatment was 30 days later, when a surgeon removed it.

Henley is now stationed at Kilby Prison.

* * *

Bombshells Likely

THE PRISON COMMITTEE is expected to receive a final report soon from Austin H. MacCormick, of the Osborne Prison Association.

The report, it is said, may not contain just one, but several bombshells.

Other interesting disclosures also are expected from various subcommittees which have been quietly at work from time to time the last 30 days.

* * *

'Why The Hush?'

FOR THE FIRST TIME in months, there were no officially recorded floggings at Kilby Prison during November.

That doesn't mean, however, that the lash was pigeonhold.

There are floggings and floggings; some are officially recorded and others not.

Just why prison authorities choose to record some floggings and keep others quiet, is one of the many prison secrets the investigators are seeking to uncover. Sun-12-5-48

Only two floggings were officially noted in other state prisons and road camps.

At Camp Troy, 10 lashes were given Archie Lee Robinson, Negro, Montgomery, after the stabbing of a fellow prisoner.

The same number of lashes—for a like offense—were given Johnny Leslie, Negro, at Camp Decatur.

Probe Blinding Of Convict

Chicago Defender

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—A prison investigation committee is expected to complete early next month a probe into the alleged brutal blinding and flogging of Anderson Henley, of Birmingham, convict working at the time of the reported injury at Camp Troy near here. Chicago Illinois

According to recently disclosed information, Henley lost his eye from a blow on the head administered August 16, by a guard who claims to have struck in self defense. A heavy walking stick with a curved handle is said to have been used and the point to have entered the prisoner's eye which had to be completely removed later. Sat-12-18-48

Most serious charge is that Henley was flogged shortly after the eye gouging and that since the law requires a physician's presence when physical punishment is administered, a medical man must have been aware of the eye injury at the time. However, no treatment was given and this is said to have caused the loss of the eye.

Committees and subcommittees are also looking into the hush-hush policy regarding floggings in the state prisons. Some are recorded, some are not.

New Stories Of Cruelty To Prisoners Reported

BY HUGH W. SPARROW
News Staff Writer

Sun-9-26-48

The News

B'ham Ala.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 25—Should the prison investigating committee which reconvenes here Tuesday decide to launch an early inquiry into alleged prison brutality, there are two or three recent reports which could be checked.

The instances — reported from usually reliable sources, but not verified—occurred at or near Camps Greenville and Livingston.

The latest report, heard here this week-end, was that a Negro prisoner, whose name was not disclosed, was flogged so severely at Greenville for escaping that he could not stand for several days.

According to the story, the prisoner was flogged near he Butler County Jail, immediately following his surrender to state guards after recapture. Two Butler County officers reportedly were present when the escapee was punished.

Sun-9-26-48

* * *

PRISON REGULATIONS require that following a flogging, a prisoner must return immediately to his job and resume work. In the Camp Greenville case, the prisoner, unable to stand after the whipping, reportedly was carried back and forth daily by other convicts. They are said to have left him handcuffed under trees or bushes until time for the gang to return to camp.

Negroes allegedly involved in the reported instances of brutality at

Camp Livingston were identified as Charlie Hawkins and David Steele.

Some one, to escape detection for smoking in a camp building where smoking was banned, it was reported, dropped a cigaret to the floor as a guard approached.,

The guard is said to have accused Hawkins and ordered him to pick up the cigaret.

As the Negro bent over to pick it up, according to the report, the guard allegedly hit him over the head with a wooden beam.

Nov [illegible] -48

* * *

STEELE IS SAID to have written a letter to prison higher-ups reporting the blow given Hawkins, and complaining against conditions at the camp. Furthermore, he is said to have requested the letter be forwarded to the governor.

The letter was not forwarded, cording to the story, but was sent to the warden at Livingston. As a result the prisoner allegedly was flogged.

Negro Inmates Pull Plows at Notorious Kilby 'Flogging' Jail

The Courier
Sat 5-14-49
Pittsburgh, Pa.

(Special to The Courier)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Human mule teams composed of Negro prisoners pull plows at notorious Kilby Prison, State prison investigators learned last week from Frank Boswell, director of Alabama prisons. Earlier this year Mr. Boswell admitted the truth of a Courier expose revealing the flogging of Negro women inmates by prison guards.

Director Boswell said the formation of these human mule teams was, however, purely a voluntary act on the part of the Negro prisoners, as the investigators continued their probe of the State's penal system which has been under heavy fire this year for brutality shown to Negro prisoners by guards and prison officials.

son's orders were based upon school buildings, it is virtually impossible for the school boards of the two counties in question to provide school buildings for Negro pupils equal to those furnished for white pupils.

PERHAPS INVOLUNTARY

Despite hints that the act was not purely voluntary, Director Boswell insisted that it was voluntary in his testimony before the investigators.

Sat 5-14-49

According to Boswell, the Kilby prison farm has three small plots with ground too soft for mules to work there and he declared that small groups of prisoners—in fours, sixes and eights—made teams of themselves and pulled the plows. He said they felt it was better to plow the plots than to try to hoe them, thus the human mule teams.

HAPPENED AT ATMORE

Director Boswell further admitted that male prisoners had pulled plows at the Atmore prison farm before he took over as head of the State penal institutions. There was no statement as to whether this was voluntary or forced.

Sat 5-14-49

The prison investigation board expects to work out a reform pro-

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Nab 2 Alabama Sheriffs For Beating 9 Negroes

The Worker
Sun 11-28-48
New York

By Sam Hall

MOBILE, Ala.—A sheriff and a deputy of an Alabama black belt county are free on $5,000 bail each after being indicted by a federal grand jury here for "violating the civil rights of nine Negroes."

Violation of civil rights, in the words of U. S. District Attorney Percy Fountain, consisted of the officers, acting "under cover of their office," committing "illegal assault, beatings, whippings and other cruel maltreatment and physical abuse for the purpose of imposing illegal punishment."

The two men on bail are Sheriff Jenkins Angus Hill and Deputy Sheriff Willie Ray Harrell of Clarke County, one of the counties with a Negro majority in population.

★

COMPLAINTS BY white residents of Clarke County led to the federal investigation and the indictments, District Attorney Fountain revealed. These people were incensed at what they described as the beating of Negroes "in jail, along the highways and in wooded areas."

These complainants charged that in at least some instances beatings were administered Negroes in an effort to force confessions from them. Fountain said some of the Negroes were first arrested on minor charges while others were not even arrested, but just beaten.

Victims of these beatings were listed as:

George Dickinson, Robert Gordon, Ed Finch, Mose Nicholson, Leo Williams, John Allen, Jr., Johnnie J. Mitchell, Mattie Lee Poe and Edward Lloyd Buck. All are residents of Clarke County.

Indictments said that the offenses against these men occurred between Deecmber, 1947, and June, 1948.

★

THESE INDICTMENTS throw a fierce bright light on the reign of brutality under which the Negro people live in the black belt and generally throughout the South.

These two county officials must be convicted as a step in smashing this vicious system of terror. However, under the federal civil rights bill, conviction would carry a maximum penalty of only a year in prison and a fine of $1,000 on each count in the indictments.

At Least 19 Convicts Used As Servants By Folsomites

12-10-48
The Montgomery Advertiser
Montgomery Ala.

At least 19 Negro women convicts are (or were) being farmed out of state prisons to work as servants for members of Governor James E. Folsom's administration or the executive's friends.

There may be more women, but the Advertiser didn't get their names. Neither did it obtain the names of male prisoners working outside for individuals.

Prison Director Frank A. Boswell, while declining to prepare a list of all convicts working outside prison for individuals, told a reporter that such a list went to the state's special prison investigating committee "some time ago."

Fri 12-10-48

The 19 names and the names of persons to whom they were assigned were obtained from a member of the committee. Boswell said it reflected conditions as of two or three months ago.

Boswell Okehs All

Even though there are some prisoners who are working for private individuals, the number is not "nearly so great" as it was during previous administrations, Boswell insisted.

12-10-48

He said that prison records would not reflect where and for whom the convicts are working.

But, he added, he and Mrs. W. A. Austin, superintendent of Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women, at Wetumpka, know where the prisoners are assigned—and none is assigned without his approval.

Members of the State Pardon and Parole Board have said they know nothing of these prisoners who are working as "servants."

Big Jim's Got Three

A member of the special investigating committee, who declined use of his name, released this purported list of Negro women convicts who are working out as "servants."

Lucinda Allison, Anna Horton and Grace Hodge, assigned to Governor Folsom.

Mary Lee Brown, assigned to D. A. Harden (no identification).

Bessie Dunford, assigned to Mrs. Ruby Ellis, the governor's sister.

Fri 1-10-48

Blannel Edwards, assigned to S. M. Lufkin, Atmore.

Hattie Mae East, assigned to Harold Todd (no identification).

Magnolia Feyd, assigned to Draper Prison Warden B. R. Reeves.

Lula Gibson and Mariah Jones, assigned to Dr. J. F. Sewell, Wetumpka.

Sara Pugh, assigned to J. Bruce Airey, prison department classification officer.

Lena Shaw, assigned to Rep. E. L. Roberts, Gadsden, who was Folsom's floor leader in the House of Representatives in 1947.

Melvira Thompson, assigned to C. B. Edwards (no identification).

Ruth Williams, assigned to Mrs. Austin.

Mary Campbell, assigned to Mrs. M. Riggs, who is carried on the temporary clerk hire fund payroll from the governor's office as an administrative assistant.

Lillian Nicholson, assigned to S. Fleetwood Carnley, director of the State Department of Industrial Relations and Folsom's former brother-in-law.

Ella White, assigned to Mrs. Frances Johns, (Mrs. Frank Boswell).

Fri 12-10-48

Roberta Mason, assigned to Mrs. Draper (no identification).

Emma Richardson, assigned to Dr. Hunter (no identification).

Brandon Has One

The committee member said he did not have a list of the male prisoners who had been assigned to duty to individuals.

However, he said he was going to get that information.

At least one Negro trusty is reported to come to the Capitol daily, check in there and then report to State Treasurer John Brandon at his home on Fairview Avenue for duty.

Max Peacock, chief of the division of services, Finance Department, confirmed that, saying he knew nothing more about the matter.

Another source said Brandon had had a convict working for him in the previous administration.

It is also understood from another source that at least three other Negro convicts are assigned to individuals: One to State Adjutant General James Saliba one to former Highway Patrol Chief Walter McAdory and one to former Highway Director Gaston Scott who is now an employe in the Highway Department.

Practice Hit

State Comptroller John Graves said these convicts are receiving expense money from the state when they leave Montgomery with their bosses.

In a report a year ago by the examiners of public accounts the practice of using convicts as servants was criticized on grounds that it in effect gave them paroles, which is a power lodged in the Pardon and Parole Board.

Criticizing publicity that the use of convicts as servants has brought about recently, Boswell said yesterday it was being done "just because a different crowd is doing it."

He repeated his statement that there is less of it going on now than in previous administrations and again stated he was not ashamed of anything he had done while prison director.

Widow Sues Cops As Husband, 79, Dies After Night On Cell Floor

The Defender

A lawsuit is in prospect against officers at Wabash ave. station over the death of a 79 year-old, mentally ill man who died four days after he lay unconscious overnight on a concrete cell floor, according to his wife.

Sat 3-13-48

Mrs. Geams Ann Parker, 4047 Indiana ave., widow of Hugh Parker, says the officers in charge are responsible for her husband's death, Ulysses Keys, her attorney, has disclosed.

Parker, a retired post office employee, died in Cook County Hospital Monday, of pneumonia, cerebral hemmorrhage, hypertension, and cardiac disease. Mrs. Parker contends that he contracted pneumonia as a result of lying on the police station floor, and that his other ailments, were aggravated by the delay in getting him to a hospital.

Chicago Def

The dead man was picked up unconscious and bleeding from the nose and mouth at 51st st. and South Parkway Thursday evening by Park District Policeman Walter Jones. Jones carried him to Provident Hospital, where he was given firts aid. A squad car arrived meanwhile.

Friday morning, Mrs. Parke who had been searching frantical for her husband all night locate him at the station. She explaine that she had taken him to Count name he found inside his watch, appeared to be ill. When he suggested that the police take Parker to a hospital, Jones said the other officers claimed they could not until someone identified him, Atty. Keys added.

Sat 3-13-48

Wife Finds Him

Mrs. Parker stated that besid that they took drunks to Wabash ave. station. Jones, who accompanied them said they reached the station about 8 p. m., according to Atty. Keys.

Jones also said Parker, whose Gurgine Edwards, a nurse on duty at the time asked that Parker be left overnight, but according to Mrs. Parker, the policeman in the squad car said he was drunk, and the day before, but he had refuse to stay. While they were returnin home, he slipped away and di appeared in loop traffic.

his other ailments. including hig blood pressure and stomach ulcer her husband had been certified a mentally ill by Dr. Douglas Maz que of 5508 Kimbark ave.

Time Differs

When Atty. Keys asked Capt. Jerome Looney of Wabash ave. station why the unconscious man was kept in jail overnight instead of being taken to a hospital, Capt. Looney declared that Parker was not brought in until 7:30 Friday morning the lawyer stated.

Atty. Keys said Capt. Looney claimed further that Parker had been carried to Cook County Hospital, but had been refused admittance when a Dr. Grennell said he was drunk.

An employee at the hospital receiving room said they had no record of Parker's having been brought in by the police and refused admittance.

Little Ella Mae Green, 4, of Washington, opened her part of the drive to sell Easter seals by selling her first sheet to General Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower. Proceeds from these sales go to the National Society for Crippled children.

Misery, Death, Horror in Georgia's Tattnall Prison

The Courier – Sat 8-14-48 – Pittsburgh Pa.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Five years behind the walls of Georgia's Tattnall Prison were ended Nov. 23, 1947, when the Rev. Herbert E. Knox walked out into the sunshine as a man who had paid his debt to society. But what he had experienced behind those prison walls he would never forget; nor would he forget what happened to his fellow inmates. The prison's terrors and horrors brought him close to his God and he became a preacher while behind those cold walls. Twice since his release he has returned to Tattnall to hold service with doomed Negro inmates. Now living in Atlanta, Ga., where he is an evangelist for the Prsioners' Aid Society, Inc., the Rev. Mr. Knox tells Courier readers—exclusively—the story of his long years in Tattnall Prison in Georgia.

By **HERBERT E. KNOX**
(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

ATLANTA, Ga.—The famous and notorious Georgia State Prison, commonly known as Tattnall because it is in Tattnall County, is located six miles west of Reidsville, Ga. This eight-winged building, made of white marble, has a beautiful front but behind its walls there is misery and death for the colored inmates. It is not incarceration that produces this misery and death but it is produced from the superiority that is given the white inmates over the colored inmates.

Georgia's famous and notorious State prison commonly known as Tattnall.

13f

There are one or more white inmate "bosses" over every department inside this building. If a colored inmate gets an inside job, he has to honor his fellow white inmate by addressing him as "Mr." Besides he has to say "yes sir" and "no sir" to him, and if the colored inmate forgets this policy, he is beaten or cut by white inmates; if he escapes death under the assault he is "fired" by his "boss" and thrown in an outside detail on the farm.

On Nov. 22, 1942, I was committed to this prison with a sentence of from three to five years. Because I suffered a hernia and because I was small and delicate, the doctor suggested that I be given "light work." I was assigned to the pot room and told by a guard that my job was to keep the pots clean for the white cooks and "to do anything else they tell you to do."

WHISKEY MAKING

I got along well until one of the cooks asked me to make and sell "buck" for him. I knew that this was against the prison rules, but I was afraid to tell the white inmate cook "no." If I had, I would have been backed against the wall and cut to death and there would not have been a thing done about it. So, I agreed to make and sell "buck" for him.

"Buck" is an intoxicant that is drunk by inmates in prison and it reacts upon one just as whiskey does. "Buck" was made from water, meal, yeast and syrup or sugar. Although it was sold for thirty-five cents a quart, it was made so cheaply that a profit of about fifteen dollars was made a day.

I hang my head in shame to admit that all I got out of it was the hopes of keeping my inside job and not being thrown out by my white "boss."

The Courier

HOLE OF HORROR

One day as I was selling the "buck" in the pot room to the inmates that came in, the steward walked in on me. I was afraid to tell him that the "buck" was not actually mine, I was afraid to tell him the truth that it was the white boy's "buck" so I took the whole load on myself. I concluded that it was more safe to endure the punishment of the warden than what the white inmate mob would have put on me if I had told whose "buck" it actually was.

I was given ten days "in the hole." The hole was a dark cell that was used for punishing. It had a cement floor and when one was put in it he was made to strip naked and there was no bed in it. I was given a small piece of bread three times a day, that was if they thought about me. I could drink water from the faucet in the cell. When I was taken out I was so weak that it took two men to hold me up.

Sat 8-14-48

STEAL AWAY, CRY

I was not assigned back to the pot room, I was assigned to the print shop as porter. This department, too, was run by the white inmates. I worked there a year before I was kicked and booted by one of my "bosses," because he had forgotten where he had put a box of envelopes, and because I didn't know where they were, I was attacked. There was nothing I could afford to do about the situation but steal away and cry.

If I had reported it to the warden he would have believed the white boy's side and not mine, as he did several times in many cases that involved white and colored inmates. Then I would have been branded as a prison "stool," and beaten. So I thought I did the wisest thing to just cry about it and pretend that I soon forgot it.

A TERRIBLE KILLING

One day as I had finished my work down in the shop and walked up the hall by the bakery shop, I saw the most terrible killing that could have happened anywhere.

A white baker had cut the colored bakery scrub boy. His stomach was cut wide open just above his belt. He did not have on a shirt and that caused the butcher knife that he was cut with to sink deep into his stomach. He ran toward me and fell at my feet.

The white boy was only put in the hole a few days and re-assigned to the bakery. The cutting was said to have arisen from the shortage of money that was collected from "buck" sales. Ben, the colored boy that was killed, sold "buck" for the white boy that killed him.

IT GOT WORSE

The warden did not order an investigation in the killing. From that time on the white boys began to beat and cut colored boys up more than ever. They actually saw that they could get away with murder.

A big double-jointed white boy was the head of the white inmate mob. He was actually so cruel until the white boys themselves were afraid of him. And when he said "get that 'n——r,'" they would jump at one of us like we were something good to eat. Life there was horrible for the colored boys.

PRISON RACE RIOT

The only time, while I was there, that the colored boys tried to defend themselves was the day of the race riot. It all started when a colored boy of about sixteen years of age resisted a white boy's advances. The white inmate "boss" gave the command to "kill all the d—— 'n——rs.'" Then the white mob began to throw bottles.

The colored boys ran for the store where there were crates of empty bottles stacked, and began to fade the whites by throwing bottles too. I even got a chance to throw although I didn't hit a single man. Several men of both races were hurt severely enough to be hospitalized. The warden threatened to punish all the colored boys. We asked was he going to punish the white boys. He made it clear that he was not.

So we hinted that we would go on a strike if he punished us and let the white boys go. After he saw that we were serious about the strike proposal he decided to "let the whole thing drop."

A big two-hundred pound white inmate was the kitchen foreman. A six-footer was the colored mess hall "boss." And there was dormitory overseer on the colored side. All these were white inmates that had full jurisdiction over the colored. The kitchen foreman was a real mean guy who felt his "authority." He would kick the colored boys around that worked in the steward's department under him.

He hated me. He called me "a smart 'n——r.'" His main reason for this was: when he hinted about kicking me one day I wrote the Governor and slipped the letter out. In return the Governor wrote the warden and advised him to investigate the situation.

Sat 8-14-48

THE "HOLE" AGAIN

But instead of the warden investigating the situation, he put me in the hole. He hid behind the statement that he was not punishing me for writing the Governor but for slipping the letter out, "which is against the prison rules," he asserted. One thing, the kitchen foreman did not hate me as badly as I hated him. I hated him for the way he treated us, the colored boys. But if he would tell the truth, although I don't believe he can, he would say that he had no logical reason to hate me.

BEGAN TO PRAY

The condition there got so critical until I began to seek some device that would help. I came to the conclusion that there could be nothing to help these uncivilized white people but God Almighty. Then I began to pray. I would often sing the old familiar song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," I particularly liked the verse that read, "take it to the Lord in prayer."

I began to relate to the boys how well the Lord was taking care of me and how he had caused the white inmates to "get up off my head." Soon, I began to preach to the boys in my dormitory. When the State began to electrocute so many colored, I asked permission to go up to the death row and preach to the doomed men. Thanks to the Lord, this request was granted.

Before I left, I had heard thirty-six men confess Christ due to my preaching to them, as they "walked" the last mile" to the electric chair.

Eventually, I completed this sentence. And as I borded the bus for home, I was humming the song that has in it these words: "When I was in trouble You brought me through, nobody but You Lord, nobody but You."

'Rights' Beating Case Indicts Five Officers

The Constitution
Feb 16-16-48

MIAMI, Fla.—(INS)—Four Palm Beach County police officers and an agent of the Florida East Coast Railroad were indicted yesterday by a federal grand jury in Miami for violation of civil rights laws in the beating of a Negro prisoner.

Atlanta, Ga

The five officers named were John T. Britt, Police Chief of Riviera Beach; Euell M. Culbreath and Walter I. Minton, Palm Beach County deputies; William M. Barnes, West Palm Beach patrolman, and Worden A. Bader, special agent for the Florida East Coast railroad.

They were accused of beating Alton Fowler, 24-year old golf caddy and laborer in West Palm Beach.

Fowler was charged with stealing cigarettes from a railroad boxcar. He was placed in West Palm Beach jail and then transferred to the Riviera jail, where he was held two days without being booked.

In between, he was allegedly taken out by the accused men and beaten to obtain a confession.

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12 Prisoners Confined After N. C. "Riot"

Daily World
Feb 18-19-48

STATESVILLE, N. C.—(ANP)—Because of their taking part in a prison "riot" in which no one was hurt, 12 prisoners in the all Negro prison camp, Camp Iredell, were placed in solitary confinement last week.

Atlanta Ga

During the period of trouble the prisoners held two guards captive. A rescue group of 20 highway patrolmen, the sheriff and some deputies were called to the camp to rescue the guards.

The disturbance was not an attempted prison break, Supt. C. W. Knox of the camp said.

According to Knox, the trouble started when one prisoner jumped on another with a knife at the dinner table. An unarmed guard, Everett Morrow, asked for the knife. When the prisoner refused to give it up, the guard wrestled with him and took the weapon.

REFUSE CELLS

The prisoners, Knox said, refused to return to their cells. Knox and another guard came to the rescue of Morrow and a second unarmed guard, Hamp Ashley. Ashley and Morrow had escaped from the prisoners, but they kept the two rescuers, Knox and Guard Watson W. Kerr.

Knox said he talked to them and they let him go in a half hour. Later the 20 outside men, all armed, came in answer to an alarm from the prison. Facing these odds, the convicts released Kerr, and gave themselves up.

They have been taken to Central prison and placed in solitary confinement, according to Warden Hugh Wilson. Their version of the incident had not been told.

68 PRISONERS

Search of the prisoners revealed that they were armed only with knives, blackjacks and various crude weapons. Camp Iredell had 68 colored prisoners.

Feb 16-19-48

Leaders of the uprising, according to prison inspector Kyle Matthews, were two "trouble-makers," Richard Weatherspoon, 27 and Jule Hart, Jr., 21. Witherspoon was sentenced in January, 1941 to terms of 5-7 years and 6-10 years for armed robbery, and. Hart in 1945 to 20-25 years for robbery and assault.

S.C. Chain Gang Country's Worst

KINGSTREE, S.C.—Inmates of the Willliamsburg County chain gang have sought the aid of the NAACP in an effort to get some relief from the cruelty inflicted upon them by the prison guards and officials, under whom they are forced to work.

Pleading for some force of justice, the men say they are forced to work on the road in the rain, and in intense heat until they collapse.

Beat on Bare Buttocks

One of their punishments includes being forced to lie over a barrel and have their bare buttocks beaten. In addition, they say their relatives are insulted by guards when they come to visit them.

Feb 4-5-48

Balls and chains are put on colored inmates under any pretext, the prisoners declare.

A relative of one of the inmates solicited the aid of the NAACP, but warned that if the organization wrote to the prison it should be careful about what was in the letter because the guards would punish the men for telling about how they are treated.

Nazi-like Slayings Exposed

The Courier

(By Staff Correspondent)

Feb 5-21-48

HOUSTON, Tex.—Dixie's goose-stepping Nazis marched twice last week . . . and two Negroes in as many States lie dead at their hands, brutally murdered without a chance to defend themselves, just as Hitler's barbarians murdered helpless Jews in Nazi Germany. The States covering themselves with "glory" in this manner were Texas and Mississippi.

Pittsburgh Pa

In the little town of Nacogdoches, Tex., 50-year-old Ellis Hudson was shot to death by a Texas constable. Hudson had come to court to attempt to arrange bail

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HOUSTON, Tex.—A wide-spread rumor that three Negroes were lynched in Nacogdoches following the slaying of a middle-aged man was denied Monday by police officials and Negro leaders.

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for his son, Ellis Jr., who had been arrested and beaten by the same officer who had become infuriated when the lad did not address him as "sir."

FIRESTONE EMPLOYE SLAIN

Samuel Bacon, 55-year-old employe of the Firestone Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, who reportedly never drank intoxicating liquors, was shot to death in a jail cell in Fayette, Miss., by Town Marshal S. D. Coleman, after having been arrested on an alleged charge of drunkenness, while en route to Natchez, Miss., to visit relatives.

Father of Mrs. Frances Perry, an employe of the Birmingham, Ala., office of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, that organization immediately demanded U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark in Washington to investigate the killing.

Feb 5-7-48

CLAIM "SELF-DEFENSE"

Both white officers made claims that the Negroes had been attempting to attack them and that they had shot them in self-defense.

The SNYC told Mr. Clark that it had "every right to expect the protection of the Federal Government in the face of the barbarians who rule the South."

SON ALSO BEATEN

In the Texas shooting, Mr. Hudson's son, Ellis Jr., had been questioned by the constable on a highway outside the town about the ownership of a car bogged down on the road. The boy and a cousin were taking a sow to a nearby farm for breeding and told the officer they knew nothing about the car. But Ellis Jr. failed to say "sir" to Heppenstead, whereupon the officer took him underneath a bridge and beat him into a gory mass and then took him to the jail in Nacogdoches.

When Mr. Hudson went to the court to get bail for his son, he was questioned by the officer in a threatening and intimidating manner, and then taken into the sheriff's office where three shots rang out. An unnamed woman reported seeing the elder Hudson slumped to the floor.

He was the father of seven children, one of whom, Floyd, is in the Navy and was aboard the U. S. S. Spokane en route to a Virginia port at the time his father was killed.

Mr. Bacon, who had been taken from a bus and arrested, was shot to death when the town marshal claimed that he was brandishing an axe left in the cell where he was placed while the marshal was making a routine check. Bacon had $106 in personal deposit slips on his person when he was slain. He was brought to Natchez for burial.

Brutalities on S.C. Prison Farms Told by Ex-Convict

Afro-American
Baltimore Md.

COLUMBIA, S.C.—(ANP)—The eight-year-old battle to eradicate State prison farm brutalities flared anew this week when a freshly released man, showing a large, ugly scar on his forehead, told his story to the editor of "The Lighthouse and Informer."

The freed man, Thomas Lymas of Dorchester County, said he had sustained no less than six brutal whippings during his three-year sentence.

Feb 13-18-48

The latest came in October, he said, when a 230-pound guard, under the eye of the Reid Farm superintendent, lashed him 50 times on the trumped-up charge of his having overlooked a few sweet potatoes his detail was harvesting.

Whipped Until Unconscious

Asked his reaction to the whipping, Lymas, head bowed and ashamed, he replied, "I begged for mercy. There's nothing else you can do, sir."

The whipping was administered while two trusties, also on orders, held his shoulders and feet and a guard held a rifle on him. While the whipper worked, the victim lost consciousness.

Lymas said whippings are made with a heavy leather strap, about three-quarters of an inch thick, three inches wide and about three feet long, affixed to a wooden handle. Prisoners call it the "bull-tongue."

Sole Means of Discipline

Feb 13-18-48

He made a statement which charged that several other prisoners are whipped almost daily, and with approval of prison superintendent, Col. Wyndham M. Manning, who, after two exposes in 1947, told investigators he had ordered whippings halted.

Confronted with a subsequent whipping, the superintendent admitted he had ordered them renewed, contending that these were his sole means of punishing prisoners. Only colored State prisoners are assigned to this and the other two State farms.

Statement Being Studied

Lymas sustained a rupture on the farm and many of his whippings came because he wasn't able to do the hard labor. Authorities gave him a truss after two years of his sentence, which was for a violation of the State's motor vehicle law.

Since this aid has given him little relief, he plans to have an operation as soon as he can raise the money.

Meanwhile, his statement is being studied by leaders here and if advisable, may be used to seek redress in courts. A State law prohibits corporal punishment; yet, guards are known to have killed numerous prisoners on the State farms.

PRISONERS CRIPPLED; OFFICIAL LOSES JOB

The Times

ATLANTA, April 12 (AP) — A supervisor of a boys' training school at Rome, Ga., was discharged today by state officials who reported he was responsible for two Negro youths losing parts of their feet by confinement in an unheated room.

The State Board of Corrections discharged J. T. May, charging he used poor judgment by placing the youths in an unheated wing of the school's hospital building without sufficient covering. New York,

The board voted to make financial reparation to the youths from the prison welfare fund. N.Y.

Evidence showed Walter Lee Denson, serving a five to ten year sentence for burglary, would lose part of each foot as a result of frostbite. John Thurmond, serving a two-year sentence for burglary, will lose one toe from each foot.

C. A. Williams, director of the State Board of Corrections, said the two were placed in solitary confinement in February for infraction of prison rules. Thurmond was reported to have had a knife. Denson was described as "an agitator." Tues. 4-13-48

White Prisoners Ask That Fired Supervisor Be Given Job Back

The News Birmingham, Ala. Wed. 4-14-48

ROME, Ga., April 14—(AP)—Reinstatement of J. T. May as supervisor of the Boys Training School was asked yesterday in a letter signed by 59 white prisoners at the school.

May was discharged after an investigation of treatment of two Negro youths who lost parts of their feet. The Negroes, the board said, were placed in solitary confinement in an unheated hospital room and suffered frostbitten toes.

Walter Matthews, prison inspector, gave permission for the letter to be written and promised to handle it when he received a copy.

The school has 43 Negroes.

When the board made its inquiry May told newsmen the two Negroes tied cords around their legs, cutting off circulation and causing swelling. He said gangrene set in and the two were sent to the Augusta Hospital. 4-14-48

Inquest Today In Convict's Death

The Constitution

AUGUSTA, June 11—(AP)—An inquest will be held Saturday in the death of Ike Crawford, Richmond County Negro convict who died at the University Hospital here last week. Atlanta,

Results of an investigation by the State Corrections Board awaited the outcome of the inquest, which was called by Acting Coroner Albert Ingram. Ga.

Hospital attaches said the man probably died from a liver disease, but an investigation was touched off for State and county officers with the discovery of an eye wound. Sheriff Gary Whittle ordered his department to study the possibility that the man might have been struck on the head by a stockade guard or by another prisoner. Sat. 6-12-48

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2 Negro Youths Have Feet Frozen Off In Georgia Prison

Daily Worker New York, N.Y. Wed. 4-14-48

ATLANTA, April 13 (UP).—Georgia penal authorities yesterday fired the director of the state's Juvenile Training Institute because he placed two Negro youths in solitary confinement where their feet froze.

The State Board of Corrections voted to compensate the two prisoners for the loss of portions of their feet.

Corrections Director C. A. Williams said J. T. May, Juvenile Institute supervisor, had the youths placed in solitary even though he knew the rooms were unheated.

The youths who lost or will lose portions of their feet are Walter Lee Denson, 16, and John Thurmond, 17, both serving terms for burglary. Wed 4-14-48

The youths were given 12 days in solitary on Feb. 12, but they served only nine days. During one of the nights they were in solitary, the temperature fell below the freezing point.

Guards Gouge Out Prisoner's Eye; Claim Death Due To Liver Ailment

The Defender Sat 7-3-48 Chicago Ill.

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Three guards at the Richmond county stockade were indicted Thursday by a county grand jury here on charges of beating prisoners, after one of their victims died. One eye had been gouged out. Sat 7-3-48

The probe was brought about by the death on June 5 of 29-year old Ike Crawford.

Crawford died at University hospital here 15 days after stockade guards are said to have brutally beaten him and gouged out one of his eyes.

The minions of the law are said to have also inflicted a near-fracture of the skull with the butts of the rifles and shotguns, and with clubs and blackjacks.

The guards indicted for prison brutality are David L. Turner, Horace "Doggie" Wingard and Alvin Jones.

True bills against theme were returned on 14 counts, charging assault and battery, including the lashing of a white prisoner.

Turner is charged on 10 counts of assault and battery on Negro prisoners, Wingard with the beating of a white convict and Jones with the beating of three Negroes.

All of the beatings are said to have occurred during the past year. Sat 7-3-48

The three indicted guards may be tried at a special term of Richmond county court during the summer.

A coroner's jury which investigated Crawford's death held that he "died of a liver disease 15 days after treatment of an eye injury inflicted by parties unknown."

13f 1948 Mississippi

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Bare Cotton Slavery At Mississippi Prison

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y. Thurs 3-25-48

JACKSON, Miss., March 24 (UP).—Inmates of Parchman penitentiary were pictured today as slaves driven by the bull-whip in prison cotton fields, or paroled as hand-servants to wealthy Jacksonians at wages as low as 50 cents a day. The charges were made in the legislature by State Sen. Fred Jones of Inverness, chairman of the Senate Penitentiary Committee which is taking up reform bills for the big upstate prison. He made his report after a personal inspection of Parchman.

Sen. Jones denounced the legal punishment of prisoners by whipping, asserting it had been vested in the hands of "gorillas in human form who lust for the power to impose their will on others."

"Records at the penitentiary show that many men are beaten for wrong attitudes'," Jones continued. "I cannot see . . . how a person employed as a sergeant in the Parchman penitentiary has the ability to pass on the attitudes of another human being . . . according to his own standards of values. Thurs 3-25-48

"When the cotton comes up in the spring it is a grim and serious day to the convicts. The management pushes the sergeant; the sergeant pushes the drivers; the drivers push the convicts at furious pace under the threat of the bull-whip.

Daily Worker

In attacking the parole system. Jones charged that 25 prisoners had been paroled to people in Jackson.

"Some were paroled at wages of 50 cents a day to prominent and influential people as personal servants." he charged. 3-25-48

New York, N.Y.

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TREATMENT OF TEXAS PRISONERS PROTESTED

Press Service of the NAACP

New York, N.Y.--After receiving an anonymous letter on behalf of three hundred inmates of a Texas State Prison farm camp, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has protested to the Governor of the State of Texas against the inadequate facilities and the abuse of the prisoners in the camp. The letter from the anonymous inmate read, in part, "There is no one we can go to and tell our troubles without being beaten and kicked like we are dogs--not even a doctor. Do we have to be beaten and run like cattle merely because we are in prison? Do we have to be worked in the rain, or forever eat the food that a dog wouldn't eat? We are not asking for freedom until we have paid our debt to society, but we are asking for someone to make it safe here for us while we are here."

New York, N.Y. Fri., 2-13-48

Upon investigation, the General Manager of the Texas Prison System has admitted frankly that some of the alleged conditions are true but has assured the NAACP that the inmates will be dealt with fairly in the future and that there will be an improvement in the physical facilitie offered to the prisoners.

EDUCATION

Study Of Negro Education 1-26-48

From The Hale County News (Moundville)

From a news release out of Montgomery, we see that the State Board of Education at a recent meeting has ordered a survey to be made in order to see that Negroes have opportunity for professional education in the state. This move is made, no doubt, because of the ruling of the U. S. Supreme Court in Oklahoma that Negro students are entitled to education equal to that of white people.

It seems a waste of money that separate educational systems will have to be set up in each state or in certain regions and controlled by several states, for the young Negroes in our midst; but so long as there is prejudice against them in the South this move is better than nothing. No doubt but the Negro would not stand an equal chance in our state colleges due to discrimination. Perhaps they will fare better in colleges of their own, but these colleges should be well equipped and offer educational opportunities equal to those of our other state-operated schools. It is to be hoped that such a school will be located within the state, or that the training schools here will be further endowed and that courses in medicine, law, ministry, and the other professions will be added to the curriculum offered. Mgm. 1-26-48

Certainly the education of our Negroes has been neglected in the past. The Supreme Court ruling will bring attention to the neglect. What a pity that attention is not brought to bear on the poor secondary school facilities that our Negro people have in the state.

Teachers Head Recommends One Standard For All Units

Atlanta Daily World - Atlanta Ga.

Says Schools Should Offer Opportunity

Fri-7-23-48

GLENWOOD SPRING, Colorado (ANP)—American schools should offer equal educational opportunity to all children, John M. Eklund newly elected president of the American Federation of Teachers, said after the annual conference of this group last week.

The Denver teacher at Opportunity school said there should be no double or triple standard for schooling. He also felt that the GI bill of rights benefits should be given to youths drafted in the current army.

Fri-7-23-48

Eklund said:

"The equalization of educational opportunity throughout the nation by adequate state legislation supplemented by federal aid must demonstrate to the child at the country crossroads, in the industrial areas and in the villages that a democratic nation holds for him all that his neighbor gets.

"We can never defend double or triple standards in school services."

He continued, "If we are to teach democracy with full understanding, we must practice it in every area of living."

7-23-48

On educational benefits for draftees, he said, "If the youth of the land are required to give up an important part of their lives to military serivce it is only fair and just that we provide for them the benefits of the GI bill, including an opportunity to improve their education."

14 1948 D. C.

Mott School Edges Cook on 'Quizdown,' Is Awarded 19-Volume Encyclopedia Set

The Washington Post
Washington, D.C.

(14) Sun. 11-28-48
D.C.

Roscoe
June Johnso
arbara Reason
Alva Allen
Jeanne Whe
Alvin Dougla

The Washington Post

BRIEFING—Quizmaster Vern Hansen gives Mott School's team instructions before they go before the mike. The sextette defeated the Cook School's team. Members are (front, from left) Alvin Douglass, jr., and Jeanne Wheeler, 8, and (rear, from left) Roscoe Lewis, June Johnson, Barbara Reason and Alva Allen. The Washington Post-sponsored broadcast is over WTOP

A narrow lead of 175 points established in the first half carried Mott School to victory over Cook School yesterday on "Quizdown."

Mott, at Fourth and W sts. nw., and Cook, P and First sts. nw., tied in the second half with the maximum 600 points each in the weekly quiz show sponsored by The Washington Post and broadcast over Station WTOP from 10 to 10:30 a. m. Saturdays.

Final scores were: Cook, 1000; Mott, 1175.

Yesterday's show originated at Garnet Patterson Junior High School, 10th and U sts. nw., and was transcribed because of the Thanksgiving weekend holiday in the schools.

Sun. 11-28-48

On the basis of 100 points for each question perfectly answered, and each member of the six-man teams being asked two questions, Mott just missed a perfect score of 1200 points.

Stumbling block to the perfect score was the question, "Why is the sun important to us?"

Missed It by a Shadow

Roscoe Lewis III, 9, 6-A grade, of 1225 Jackson st. ne., couldn't quite put it into words. Roscoe, nicknamed "Butch" and owner of two turtles, Snipper and Sniper, said "the sun is important because we couldn't live without it. Nothing would grow without it. It gives us vitamin B-1."

The proper answer should have been that the sun is important because we receive heat and light from it, but the judges gave Roscoe 75 points for his answer.

Jeanne Wheeler, 8, 4-A grade, of 149 W st. nw., was the first member of the Mott sextet to go before the microphone.

Jeanne, who has a mother cat with the rather unique name of "Tommie," and three kittens, correctly answered "Midas" when asked by Quizmaster Vern Hansen the name of "the king who loved gold more than anything else."

Answers in One Word

First before the microphone for Cook was Eleanor Bryant, 9, 4-B grade, of 39 K st. ne. Eleanor, wearing white ribbons in her pigtails, was right on the beam when she said "Hiawatha" was "the name of the Indian boy about whom Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote a poem."

Some unusual nicknames were discovered by Quizmaster Hansen in both teams. Ten-year-old Barbara Reason of 1247 Girard st. ne., a 5-A grader at Mott, confessed that she was called "Bones" because "I am so skinny." June Johnson, 9, also a 5-A grader at Mott, admitted to the rhymey name of "Junie- Prunie."

On the Cook side, John Risher, 10, 5-A grade, of 54 M st. nw., divulged that his grandmother calls him "Teapot," while his 6-A grade teammate, Annice Robinson, 11, of 1707 1st st. nw., said she had outgrown "Wootsie Cuddle."

Also doing their best for Cook were: Benjamin Riley, 9, 4-A grade, of 432 N. st. nw.; Mildred Francis, 10, 5-A, of 241 O st. nw., and Donna Anderson, 11, 6-A, of 42 Hanover pl. nw.

Both Schools Get Radios

Completing Mott's lineup were Alvin Douglass, jr., 8, 4-A, of 1018 Hamilton st. ne., and Alva Allen, 10, 6-A, of 2229 M st. ne.

As victor, Mott was awarded a 19-volume set of the World Book Encyclopedia, while Cook received a Rand McNally International Edition Atlas. Both schools received an Emerson table model radio.

Ball point pens were awarded to members of the winning team, and automatic pencils to the vanquished.

Judges on the show were the following three teachers: Walter M. Morris, Douglass-Simmons School; Mrs. Edna B. Gary, Slater School, and Mrs. Katherine P. Carr, Bundy School.

Quizdown is produced under the direction of Mrs. Hazel Kenyon Markel, WTOP director of public service and education, and produced by Larry Beckerman. Programs originating in the public schools are produced in cooperation with Dr. Hobart M. Corning, superintendent, and coordinated through the radio committee of the District Public Schools, of which Clyde Huber is chairman.

D.C. Does Have Unbiased School Unit For Homeless

(14) Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Though the District of Columbia is noted for its system of separate educational facilities for white and Negro children, there is one school at which children of all races attend classes on a non-segragated basis. The school is under the operation of the board of public welfare and is designed to give rudimentary education to children who are temporarily wards of the welfare department. Fri. 7-30-48

These homeless children, all under 13, are housed in the Industrial Home School annex, until relatives take them in or until they are adopted or placed in foster homes. Some of the children remain in the home for months, while others are there for only a few days. There are 60 children at the home.

Until recently, no effort was made to continue their education. Now each child will be in school several hours a day. For most, it will be a hard climb before they catch up in their studies. Several are illiterate and nine out of every ten are below grade level. They are children who have been in and out of schools but never in long enough to learn.

FOUR CLASSES

The 60 wards are grouped by age and training roughly into four classes. Instruction is individual and remedial; Two instructors, Mrs. Elaine Jenkins and Bifflee Moore, handle the educational requirements of the children. Mrs. Jenkins, a former substitute teacher in local Negro schools, holds degrees from the University of Denver and Ohio State. Her co-worker, white, is a graduate of George Peaboy College, Nashville.

According to Mrs. Winifrod Thompson, assistant superintendent of the home, the policy of non-segregation was planned. "We have not made an issue of racial difference," she said, "and the children have not recognized it."

The school is he only one supported by public funds which does not bar Negroes. The receiving home, now sharing quarters at the annex, is scheduled to move on Sept. 1 to a new building, where it will operate independent of delinquent children sent to the annex by the juvenile court.

Fri 7-30-48

Bill To Ban Jim Crow In D. C. Schools Filed

Journal & Guide

By Associated Negro Press

WASHINGTON, D. C. — A bill to prohibit the segregation of pupils in district public schools was introduced in the House Representatives here last week by Rep. Klein (D., N. Y.) a member of the house district committee. The ban on segregation would become effective "as of the beginning of the first school year following the date of enactment." Sat. 5-22-48

The measure was referred to the district committee who will assign it to a judiciary subcommittee which already has two that are designed to ban segregation in public places. The hearing, originally scheduled for early last week, was postponed because of the illness of Rep. Powell, author of one of the bills.

Dual Schools

Washington (14) D.C.

The consistent report of continued inadequacy of school facilities in divisions 10 to 13 beginning with each school year becomes increasingly alarming in light of the fact that all efforts made toward correcting these conditions are practically futile. I am thinking, of course, of the concerted efforts made by our citizens in their annual appeals before both the District Commissioners and the Joint Congressional Appropriations Committee. Fri. 9-24-48

Twice each year we prepare and present precise reports of the minimum essentials for maintenance of the schools already constructed. Occasionally, we insert a hope that some way may be found to set up other much-needed buildings so that our children may attend a school in their legal travel area, but repeatedly there are no appropriations made for this program. Post

Since Congress is the only power that can regulate the appropriation and distribution of school funds, it might be well that it investigate the wisdom of its own actions to determine whether or not a separate but equal school system should be maintained in the District of Columbia in light of the increasing expense to support such a system. Fri. 9-24-48

Can it be that the dual school system in the District of Columbia is too expensive to maintain a separate but equal school set-up?

HORACE WILSON,
President, Armstrong High School Parent-Teacher Association.
Washington.

Two Educators Named To Aid Capital School Survey

Daily World (14)
Wed. 10-13-48

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Dr. Charles E. Rochelle, assistant principal of Lincoln school, Evansville, Ind., and Dr. Ellis Knox, professor of education, Howard university, were among the noted educators selected to assist in the $100,000 public school survey now being conducted in the District of Columbia, it was learned here last week. The survey, authorized by congress, is being made for the purpose of ascertaining objective facts on the Washington school system.

Atlanta, Ga.

Head of the survey team is Dr. George D. Strayer, former dean of the department of school administration, Columbia university.

Findings of the survey will not only lay out impartial facts of exciting school conditions, but will also serve as a basis of improvement for the system. The study is to be made on an integrated basis, with the two Negro consultants working with white members of the team in both Negro and white schools.

Dr Rochelle, acting as consultant in curriculum and instruction, holds an A. B. and A. M. degree from Indiana State Teachers college, Terre Haute, Ind.; an M. S. in education from Indiana university and a Ph. D. in education from the University of California.

Dr. Knox received his early college training at the University of California, from which he earned a bachelor's degree. He followed with a master's and doctor degree in education from the University of Southern California. He took his on leave from his Howard post.

Wed 10-13-48

Two Educators Named To Aid Capital School Survey

Ellis Knox, professor of education, Howard university. Authorized by Congress, the survey is to gather objective facts on the Washington school system.

It is expected that findings of the survey will not only lay out impartial facts of existing school conditions, but will also serve as a basis of improvement in the school system. The study is to be made on an integrated basis, with the two Negro consultants working with white members of the survey in both colored and white schools. Sat 10-16-48

According to Dr. George D. Strayer, head of the survey group, the study is limited to the prevailing system in the capital and cannot touch upon the subject of segregation. It will not favor any group in searching for or recommending the removal of any inadequacy or inequalities found because of the dual school system.

Scholars Aid In Capital School Study

The Defender (14)
Sat 11-16-48

WASHINGTON — Two noted Negro educators were among those selected to assist in the $100,000 public school survey now underway in the district of Columbia, it was disclosed this week.

Chicago, Ill.

They are Dr. Charles E. Rochelle, assistant principal of Lincoln school, Evansville, Ind., and Dr.

No Segregation in This School Room

14

CLASS UNDER WAY—This photo was taken in the new school of the Industrial Home School Annex, Receiving Home for Children on Little Falls rd. nw. Mrs. Elaine Jenkins and Biffle Moore, teachers, are conducting a class in remedial reading. The children are abandoned or homeless and remain at the home until placed by the Welfare Department

Washington Post
Washington, D.C.
7-22-48

Children Now Get Schooling At D. C. Home

By Elsie Carper
Post Reporter

Wash-Post

Into the disrupted lives of a group of homeless children has come the steadying influence of a school.

14

The children are wards of the Board of Public Welfare, housed in the Industrial Home School Annex on Little Falls rd. nw. The children, all under 13, are there until relatives take them in or until they are adopted or placed in foster homes.

Some of the children remain in the home for months while others are there a matter of days. Until a few weeks ago there was no planned program for the children. No effort was made to continue their education. Now each child goes to school several hours a day.

Now Separated

The children at the annex formerly came under the jurisdiction of the Receiving Home. The Welfare Department recently set up the annex to separate these dependent children from delinquent children sent to the Receiving Home by Juvenile Court.

The Receiving Home, while at present sharing quarters with the Industrial Home School Annex, will move September 1 to a new building at Mount Olivet rd. near Corcoran st. ne.

When the children ask Miss Winifred Thompson, assistant superintendent of the Industrial Home in charge of the annex, why they must go to school in the summer, she tells them it is because they did not go to school last winter.

Hard Work Ahead

For most of the children it will be a hard climb before they catch up in their studies. Several are illiterate and nine out of every ten are below grade level. They are children who have been in and out of schools but never in long enough to learn.

The 60 children are grouped roughly into four classes by age and training. Instruction as much as possible is individual and remedial.

7-22-48

During the abbreviated summer program the two instructors, Mrs. Elaine Jenkins and Bifflee Moore, are teaching in the same classroom, dividing the children into small groups.

Like most District welfare projects, the school is hampered by a shortage of funds.

Because the youngsters are on many grade levels, a variety of books are needed. Textbooks now in use are hand-me-downs no longer used in the public schools. The school also is without work books and craft materials.

Are Trained Teachers

Both Mrs. Jenkins and Moore are trained teachers who meet District Board of Education requirements. Mrs. Jenkins, who has degrees from the University of Denver and Ohio State, was a substitute teacher in the Negro schools here before her present assignment. Moore, a graduate of George Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn., is a specialist in remedial reading.

Classes are non-segregated—the only such classes supported by public funds in the city.

"We have not made an issue of racial difference and the children have not recognized it," Miss Thompson said.

By September, Carl Oliver who is in charge of classes at the Industrial Home School on Wisconsin ave., where children over 13 are housed, plans a testing program at the annex to determine the IQ's of the children as well as their skills in reading, spelling and arithmetic.

What Ala. 'Equal-But-Separate' Means

The Worker

By Mary Southard

New York, N.Y.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—The hypocrisy of the Southern Governors' declaration of intention to provide "equal but separate" higher educational facilities for Negro and white students in the South is strikingly revealed in the status of education for Negroes in the State of Alabama. These conditions also expose the cynical disregard of Negro rights in the U. S. Supreme Court ruling on the Sipuel case, which evaded the obligation of the states to enforce the rights of Negro citizens free of discrimination and segregation. And inevitably, as the great Alabaman, Booker T. Washington, once said, "to hold Negroes in the gutter, the white population must also remain there." Sun. 2-15-48

With nearly a million Negro citizens, the State of Alabama supports only two institutions of higher education for Negroes—the Alabama State Teachers College at Montgomery and the Agricultural and Mechanical Institute at Normal—in contrast to seven colleges for white students. The peak prewar enrollment at both these schools for Negroes was less than 2,000, and both had secondary ratings by educational accrediting associations. The only graduate work offered is a course in education at the State Teachers College.

★

ACCORDING to the 1940 census there were only 98 Negro doctors and surgeons practising in the state, and only 38 dentists. Four lawyers are listed, but today there are ONLY two Negro lawyers in active practice. The Worker

Only 400 Negro nurses and nursing students are listed, and only 18 social workers. No engineers in any field, and only two architects.

There are some 5,000 Negro teachers in the state, but less than 200 on the professional or college level. Only 13 librarians, TWO ARTISTS or ART TEACHERS, only 103 musicians or music teachers, and ONE professional actor. Less than ten newspaper editors and reporters, and only 124 clerical workers in all categories—typists bookkeepers, etc. Sun. 2-15-48

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THESE FIGURES speak eloquently of the cultural bondage which the segregated educational system imposes on nearly a million Negro citizens of Alabama.

But the bondage falls inevitably on the shoulders of white citizens as well, not only in the limited facilities for advanced and professional training in higher institutions, but in the entire public education system. The Worker

The 1940 census figures show that 28 percent of all Alabama citizens had less than five years schooling—that is, by Army standards they were illiterate. Nearly seven percent had never been to school at all, and over 82 percent had never finished high school.

The value of school buildings and facilities in Alabama in 1943-44 was the LOWEST in the nation—$143 per white child and $29 per Negro child. Of the 5,101 schools, 1,401 were conducted in churches or private homes —, without school buildings at all. New York, N.Y.

The condition of public schools sticks out at the elbows worst in the rural sections where some 70 percent of the people of Alabama live. There, in 1943-1944, nearly 7,000 Negro children and over 2,000 white children attended schools with no toilet facilities. Some 21,000 Negro pupils and 2,000 whites had no water on the school grounds. Nearly three thousand public school students had no electric lights in school. Over half of the rural Negro schools were one-teacher schools and nearly 15 percent of the white rural schools had only one teacher. Sun 2-15-48

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TEACHERS' SALARIES in 1943-44 averaged $976 with rural Negro teachers averaging $626. Though the Legislature and the voters have instituted a raise in teachers' salaries to $1,800 this past year, no guarantee has yet been offered teachers as to when this raise will become effective. The acute problem of equalizing the pay of Negro teachers is still in the courts after nearly three years.

In the light of these facts the fight of Alabama Negro students for education in state colleges and universities is an essential part of the fight of the people of the state for a system of public education geared to lift the entire polution out of the bonds of illiteracy and semi-literacy and open up the future for Alabama youth.

Negroes Plan Court Action Against School Segregation In State

(14)

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Sept. 30—(AP)—Court action to halt alleged discrimination in Alabama public schools is planned, E. D. Nixon, president of the Alabama National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, announced yesterday.

Court suits are also being considered against racial restrictions in tax-supported recreational facilities, the announcement said.

The proposed action will be discussed at a state N. A. A. C. P. conference scheduled Oct. 8-10 in Mobile, Nixon said.

The Boswell amendment, adopted two years to curb Negro voting, also will be brought before the conference, Nixon added. Suits already are on file seeking to contest the act in U. S. District Courts in Mobile and Birmingham.

The N. A. A. C. P. president said the conference also will be asked to protest the use of Negro prison trusties for work around the state capitol and demand their removal.

Approximately 100 trusties are used in various jobs at the capitol.

Parents Ask Immediate Steps In Equalizing School Facilities

Daily World

Petition Given Board At Regular Meeting Tuesday

Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 9-15-48

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

Beguiled with unkept promises, a representative group of aroused parents of city school students Tuesday petitioned Miss Ira Jarrell, Superintendent of Atlanta Public schools, and the Atlanta Board of Education to take immediate steps in equalizing school facilities for Negro children.

The petition was tendered school officials at its regular meeting by Mrs. K. E. Jett, spokesman of a group of 46 parents who had signed the document, including herself.

Approximately 35 Negro spectators were on hand at the Board's association room when the spokesman declared that the Atlanta Board of Education "had established and maintained a policy of denying to Negro school children educational facilities and services equal to those offered white public school children in Atlanta which is in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States."

IMMEDIATE REQUESTS

To alleviate the emergency of present congested conditions at the schools, the board was asked to immediately proceed to:

1. Renovate and transfer the elementary school designated in the bond plan of 1946 to be used by Negro elementary school children. (Ira Street school).

2. Transfer existing schools located in the neighborhoods now occupied by Negroes to use by Negro elementary school children. (The Kingsberry school located at 627 English avenue is located in the most critical of these areas).

3. Take steps to accelerate Negro school construction projects authorized by the 1946 bond issue.

OTHER POINTS CITED

In the petition was pointed out the following:

1. That a comparison of the average per-pupil expenditure for Negro children with the average per-pupil expenditure for all children in Atlanta shows a persistent and steadily increasing inequality of educational opportunity between what is provided Negro children, and what is provided all other children. (Comparative analysis of white and Negro expenditures for each school year dating back to 1943 were cited to substantiate the petitioners' claim. The analyses are alleged to have been established from the Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education).

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Wed. 9-15-48

2. For the school year 1947-48 the investment unit cost for white students was $383.87, while that for Negroes was figured at $153.42.

3. More than 85 percent of all Negro elementary school children were offered only half a day in school during 1947-48.

4. That there are no kindergartens in the majority of Negro elementary schools.

5. Auditoriums, gymnasiums, cafeterias and library rooms are lacking in the majority of schools for Negro children.

Daily World

6. For the school year 1947-48 the instructional unit cost for white students was $143.75 as compared to $61.65 for Negro students.

7. The Board of Education's expenditure per Negro child educated is less than half the amount expended for each white child.

Atlanta, Ga.

The petitioners declared that in certain areas where Negroes have migrated and changed the majority racial composition of the neighborhood, the board has not seen fit to turn schools located in such areas over to Negroes. As such, the results were that Negro children are required to enroll in schools in other sections already over-crowded and offering only half a regular school day, the petitioners averred.

Wed.

DISPARITY NOTED

A breakdown of per pupil costs for different school levels by race for the years 1947-1948 shows the following, the petitioners said:

9/15/48

KINDERGARTEN	
White: $122.13	**Negro: $5**
ELEMENTARY	
White: $121.95	**Negro: $51.63**
JUNIOR HIGH	
White: $162.18	**Negro: $59.43**
SENIOR HIGH	
White: $173.13	**Negro: $99.53**

The board accepted the petition and said it would be taken under advisement.

The parent-petitioners represented a cross--section of city Negro schools.

Gross Disparity Found In School Facilities Here

Daily World
Sun. 10-3-48

Shocking Findings Established From Official Report

Atlanta, Ga.

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

The Atlanta Board of Education has followed a persistent pattern of increased racial discrimination in educational opportunities during the past four years, according to a statistical report released recently by the Atlanta Urban League.

Entitled "A Supplemental Report on Public School Facilities for Negroes in Atlanta, Georgia," the publication was prepared in response to inquiries about the extent to which progress has been made by the Atlanta public school system in providing equal educational opportunity for all childrn, the League asserts.

Sun 10-3-48

The report deals largely with comparative analyses of per-pupil expenditures for white and Negro public school pupils of the city.

Using the "average per-pupil expenditure," sometimes referred to as the "unit cost," as a basis for its findings, the League claims that racial discrimination in opportunities appears on all levels of schooling for Atlanta Negroes.

SUPERINTENDENTS REPORT USED

Establishing its findings from the Superintendent's report to State Board of Education, the League States that during the past four school years white pupils of Atlanta public schools have received considerably more than twice in per pupil expenditure than that provided Negroes.

In its study of school facilities provided Negroes and whites in the city, the League reports that, during the school year, 1946-47, three times as much was invested per-pupil in school plants for white children as was invested per-pupil in school plants for Negro children. In 1947-48, the average white school child received his education in a school having facilities representing an investment of $383.87 per pupil, while the average Negro school child attended a school in which only $153.42 was invested.

Sun. 10-3-48

CITES REFLECTION OF BIAS

The report goes on to say that the disparity in instructional and investment unit cost for whites and Negro children is reflected in the absence of libraries, cafeterias, gymnasiums and auditoriums at most of the Negro schools. Moreover, the disparity is acutely focused in the congestion prevalent at most of the Negro schools, the report continued. "Double sessions are necessitated in Negro elementary schools by insufficient classrooms and school buildings to enable Negro children to have a full day in school."

In 1947-48, 85 per cent of all Negro elementary school children had a half day in school. (The percentage remains about the same this school year, if not greater.)

The report points out that the establishment of single sessions in all schools was one of the major objectives of the bond issue voted in 1946. The school construction plan included funds to make possible the following, the report said:

1. Three new elementary schools.
2. The renovation and transfer of two existing schools to use by Negro children.
3. The addition of 72 classrooms to existing Negro elementary schools.

"Since the passage of the bond issue," the report claims that "one school (16 classrooms) has been transferred without renovation for use by Negro elementary school children. This transfer was made in 1947-48. The construction of one additional elementary school and the addition of 11 classrooms to an existing Negro elementary school have been authorized." (Only at the Ware School, is there any visible effort manifested toward completing these projects.)

The report says the most obvious and necessary remedy requires revision of the public school administrative policy so as to establish equality of educational services when measured by the average per-pupil expenditure for Negro and white children," the report declares. "The fundamental question facing parents and all fair-minded citizens is: What course of action can bring about the measure of equality in educational opportunity in Atlanta which is legally required?"

Officials Deny Discrimination Charge Against Negro Children

Daily World - Tues 10-19-48 - Atlanta, Ga.

Equal Teacher Pay; Pupil-Teacher Ratio Same Board Declares

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

In answer to a petition filed by a group of Negro parents charging the Atlanta Board of Education with racial discrimination in school facilities, the board offered a categorical denial of the charges in a

release Monday.

Informed of the board's answer, leaders of the petitioning parents, who had threatened court action, gave quick rebuttal, disclosing that additional shocking reports to verify their claims are forthcoming.

Tues 10-19-48

The petitioners had alleged that a comparative analysis of the board's financial report to the State educational department showed that on all school levels the board had followed a persistent pattern of increased racial discrimination in investment unit cost. Moreover, the petition touched on the disparity in salaries of Negro teachers as compared to whites.

BLAMES TWO FACTORS

In answer to these charges the board alleges that "the per pupil expenditures cited in the petition are traceable largely to two factors: (a) The number of Negro teachers employed per pupil compared with the corresponding figures for whites. (b) The overall teachers salaries paid to Negro compared with corresponding figures for white teachers."

"The first factor is accounted for by inadequate housing facilities

(school buildings), the answer pointed out. In reference to the second factor, the board deemed it improper to discuss beyond evidence offered in the teachers' equal pay suit, since the suit is still the subject of litigation in the United States Court."

The board declares that the comparative figures cited in the parents' petition do not furnish a measure of educational opportunities of individual school children. In clarification, it points out that there is no necessary relationship between the teachers' salary and the knowledge she imparts to her students.

SCHOOL HOUSING BLAMED

Tues 10-19-48

The board recognizes that the burden of the complaint is due to inadequate housing facilities for Negro school children. It claims that for 25 years it was unable to secure passage of the bond issue for improvements. Since the passage of the $9,000,000 bond issue in 1946, construction cost have more than doubled, the board avers. The petition alleges that some proposed constructions had to be eliminated because of increased construction costs.

June 18-19-48

They outlined as support of their contention a number of projects said to be underway to remedy preceding inadequate conditions.

Among those listed are: (1) the conversion of the C. W. Hill, Gray, Walker and Davis Street schools from white to Negro. (2) The Washington high school annex. (3) The opening of the Carver Vocational school. (4) The Boulevard-Irwin elementary school now under construction. (5) Drafting of plans for a new gymnasium and auditorium at Howard high-school. (6) Purchase of land for Yonge and Walker Street schools. (7) Additional classrooms at Ware. (8) Proposed new classrooms for Davis Street school. (9) A proposed new Wesley Avenue school.

In reference to a lack of kindergartens, libraries, auditoriums, etc., at the Negro schools, the board claims that as many have been installed as space will permit.

CURRENT RATING OMITTED

June 18-19-48

Although the board makes a categorical denial of the charges that it practices racial discrimination, no point-blank denial was embodied in the petition that comparative facilities as now exist are unequal.

The answer further points out other increased opportunities have been provided Negroes during the current board's tenure.

The Ira Street school condition is too poor to have it renovated for use by Negroes, the petition avers. It cites further that an alarming racial disturbance loomed when it was previously considered for use by Negroes. In its reply that the white Kingsberry school be turned over to Negroes, the board admits that the racial composition of the surrounding neighborhood is changing, but 665 white students are still enrolled there.

MISS. NEGROES PETITION COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT FOR EQUALITY IN EDUCATIONAL PROVISIONS

The Black Dispatch

Sat 4-10-48

Oklahoma City Okla

14

Race in Majority in Madison County

GROSS INEQUITIES REVEALED

CANTON, Miss. — (ANP) — A move to obtain equal educational privileges for Negro children of Madison county was started here recently when nine Negro men filed a petition with G. R. Bennett, county superintendent of education, asking that Negro school children be given opportunities equal to that afforded white students. The petition, sent by registered mail from Meridian through Atty. Robert A. Burns, concerns the Farmhaven Consolidated school district.

Madison county carries one of the heaviest Negro-populations in the state. There are 4,000 Negro farmers in the county, with 709 owning their own farms. The latter own 65,092 arces with land and buildings worth over $1,500,000. Contrasted to this, there are 810 white farmers, with 610 owning their farms. This groups owns 138,000 acres with land and buildings valued at over $4,500,000.

In Canton, white people compete with Negroes in business in all lines except embalming and barbering. On Saturdays, the merchants do a thriving business with practically 90 cents out of every dollar received coming from Negroes.

Sat 4-10-48

The petition was addressed to Bennett, the president of the county board of supervisors and the board of trustees of the Farmhaven school dictrict. It pointed out the "pronounced inequality of the educational opportunity "between colored and white children of the district. In a table, the nine signers showed that the length of school term for whites was eight months against six for Negroes; esuipment for whites was meager, for colored, none; white pupils went from grades one through 12, colored, one to eight; and no transportation was provided colored while the white pupils received free transportation.

In addition, the petition cited that "a wide difference in the total investment of facilities and buildings and equipment exists, as well as the quality of instruction, resulting from differences made in the qualifications of teachers." The petitioners asked that "early action be taken definitely on this petition in order that these unjustices may not further hamper and retard the training of the children.'

Sat 4-10-48

Bennett disclosed that he told Atty. Burns he "couldn't tell what he was asking for. He didn't state definitely what he wanted. I also told him what kind of schools we provide the Negroes of the district."

He said the new $6,000 True Light high school has recently been turned over to Negroes, making the only high school for colored outside the Canton separate school district. He also pointed out that there are eight grade schools in the district, providing grades from 1 to 8. All schools were said to offer seven months of education "but most of them (the parents) don't want it and won't send their children to school more than six months."

As for transportation, he said free service was given white students, but none was "assured" colored pupils. He pointed out that the county subsidized Negro transportation last year and offered to do so again this year for the True Light school, but that the driver decided he would lose money on the deal. Negro students are required to pay part of transportation costs, and he said the driver had been unable to collect from them last year, thereby losing money on the transaction.

Burns is the attorney who filed suit March 4 in the U. S. District court on behalf of Gladys Noel Bates, Jackson school teacher, asking an injunction to force the city school board and superintendent to pay Negro teachers salaries equal to that paid whites for comparable training and experience. Prior to the filing of the suit, a petition was sent to the school board and superintendent, but they replied that nothing could be done about the salaries.

Mississippi Daily Deplores Education Of Negroes in State

The Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City Okla.

14

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)—A local daily, the Jackson Daily News, indicted the educational program for Negroes in Mississippi, in a recent article. It brought out the fact that the state spends more money for the transportation of white children to and from school than for the whole educational program of Negro children.

Although there are 477,000 colored to 377,000 white children of school age in the state it spends $3,500,000 on transportation alone for the latter and a total of $8,333,000 in all for the former, the article pointed out. Sat.

Of the Negro students, 207,752 children are not even in school, the article revealed. The state must do something to educate these children and provide better education for the others for the improvement of Mississippi as a whole, the paper said. 1-31-48

The article also declared that if the state wants to avoid outside interference, particularly federal funds for the education of colored, the state must educate Negro children.

"We of the South," the article said, "must comprehend that ignorance, poverty, illiteracy, disease and criminality are costly factors in our society. It makes no difference what race contributes more to these community evils.

"Many a white person has died from disease spread by Negroes—and vice versa. We must rise above our prejudices and recognize that the means of overcoming these liabilities is through a constructive system of public school training." 1-31-48

3 N. J. Schools Ban Segregation

The Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

TRENTON, N. J. — Jim crow continues on its way out of the State of New Jersey.

State Commissioner of Education Bosshart reported last week that an additional three schools either have eliminated segregation or are in the process of doing so. The three concerned are located in Mount Laurel, Cinnaminson Township and Moorestown. This brings the total to twenty-five such schools.

Sat. 7-24-48

The new State constitution specifically forbids segregation in public schools for reasons of color, race, religion, ancestry or national origin.

—BUY U. S. SECURITY BONDS—

N. J. School Doors Flung Ajar to All

The Courier
Sat 9-18-48
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CAMDEN, N. J.—White and Negro children entered school here together last Wednesday for the first time in the city's history. Throughout the rest of New Jersey the same thing was happening as the policy of non-segregation went into effect. Said a teacher: "It should have happened long ago." A mother said: "We've been after this a long time." Harmony reigned.

EQUALITY PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS

Chicago Ill. Defender Chicago
Sat 1-10-48

TRENTON, N.J.--Everyday since it broke with traditional Jim Crow this city's Junior High No. 5 has demonstrated to the nation that racial bias need not be tolerated.

When the little school was opened in 1924 it was a typical "Negro" school, with a typical name and all-Negro faculty.

Lincoln Junior High continued as just another monument to Yankee Jim Crow until 1945--when the impossible happened. The board of education abolished Lincoln and dubbed it "Junior No. 5".

Without much fanfare Superintendent of Schools Paul Loser made Miss Ethel M. Stryker, white, assistant to Negro principal, P. J. Hill. Today 800 Negro and white students and a mixed faculty work together--much to the chagrin of cynics and tradition lovers.

When the democratic plan was initiated many white parents looked with suspicion lest their children be made the targets of neglect and slander.

According to Principal Hill, who holds two degrees from the University of Indiana, the program has exceeded the fondest dreams of its backers.

"Some parents, who objected the most, are now its strongest

supporters," Hill

ded.

Joker Clause in Order to Be Removed by Board

Afro American
Sat 8-7-48

Meeting Set for August 9 After NAACP Registers Strong Protest

Baltimore Md.

CAMDEN—Faced with the threat of immediate suit to compel compliance with State laws and the new constitution, the Camden board of education agreed on Tuesday to hold a meeting on Aug. 9 and remove objectionable features of its resolution calling for integration in the public schools. The Long Branch board reacted similarly last week.

The Camden board met Monday night and adopted a resolution calling for integration by Sept. 1, to conform to the Randolph clause of the Constitution and the Civil Rights Laws, but inserted what the local NAACP branded a joker to delay full integration for five or more years.

The objectionable section of the board resolution stated:

Offers Transfers

"If application is made and approved prior to Sept. 15, 1948, any pupil may continue in school said pupil may have been attending if grades, and housing facilities are available."

Dr. Wiggins, NAACP president and Robert B. Johnson, assistant county prosecutor and NAACP legal redress committee chairman, charged that the section was inserted to permit white children to continue to attend school outside districts set up in the integration plan until they reach junior high school.

They asserted that integration would apply only to new pupils.

The board voted to close the Mount Vernon School. which has had all colored attendance although in a predominantly white neighborhood.

Critics pointed out that in following the integration plan, Mount Vernon would have had about 75% white pupils. It is considered in better condition than most schools here.

Camden has seven schools for colored pupils, with three of them in predominantly colored areas. Some 300 colored children attend schools predominantly white, largely as a result of a two-year campaign of the local NAACP calling upon parents to register them at the closes schools and to resist segregation.

Sat 8-7-48

The NAACP is particularly critical of the board's failure to include in its teacher transfers changes of any colored teachers to schools which have had all white teachers, or to give any high school appoiintments.

The AFRO learned that Dr. Leon Neulen, Camden superintendent of schools, earlier this year had asked Dr. John Bosshart, state commissioner of education, to approve plans for integration before they are announced publicly.

Dr. Bosshart is said to have refused because he wanted to be certain that any school board's plans are intended to carry out the full spirit and letter of the constitutional mandate.

Interracial Project Succeeds in Trenton; Need More Teachers

Okla. City Black Dispatch

TRENTON, N. J.—(ANP)—The new integration of colored and white students as well as teachers in the city's school system has given proof, even to the dubious, that this work can be done without conflict.

Sat 2-28-48

The only drawback here seems to be the shortage of teachers, however ,and the local school system seems to be reluctant to hire more Negro teachers. What is needed most is a qualified home economics teacher, immediately, and elementary school teachers.

Oklahoma City Okla.

Today, Negroes attend practically every school in the city. Although only 40 Negroes are teachers in the whole system each school has at least one or two of them. All teachers have mixed classes.

It has been observed, though, that certain groups of Negro pupils have not been very good, and often create bad impressions. This is not the general case, and the city's new interracial school system evidently has a promising future.

Board Ends Racial Segregation at 1 More Graded School in N.J.

Baltimore (14) Md. 6-26-48

FREEHOLD, N.J.—(NNPA) —The Board of Education moved last Wednesday to end racial segregation in Freehold elementary schools by voting unanimously to close Court Street School indefinitely when the present school term ends. The school has been used exclusively by colored pupils.

The board, which said the step was taken in accordance with the new State Constitution, announced that for the 1948-49 year pupils through the fourth grades will attend Broad and Hudson St. schools; fifth and sixth graders, Hudson Street; seventh and eighth graders, Intermediate School.

Non-Segregated High

There has been no segregation in the high school. The decision to close the school came after objections that the preponderance of colored families would result in white pupils being "outnumbered" if the school were to remain open.

6-26-48

The board pointed out that a "voluntary non-segregation" plan had been in operation since 1945, which permitted colored parents to request that their children go to schools other than Court Street. There is no record of any such request, the board said.

Charlotte Survey Cites Educational Inequality

The Courier

Sat 7-17-48

Pittsburgh Pa

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—A survey of the public schools of Charlotte, N. C., prepared for the Charlotte Branch NAACP by Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, Ph.D., former professor of education, Howard University; member of the Bureau of Educational Research and now president of Morgan State College, was released this week.

The purpose of the survey was to examine the educational opportunities provided for white and Negro pupils in the public schools of Charlotte, in order to ascertain the points, if any, at which facilities for the Negro pupils are inferior to those for the white pupils during the school year 1947-1948. Data concerning physical facilities, curricula and teaching personnel have been assembled and analyzed; no attempt has been made, however, to appraise teaching methods or the actual quality of instruction in the white and Negro schools.

Sat 7-17-48

The survey revealed (1) that the Negro pupils of Charlotte, N. C., are provided educational programs, facilities and opportunities which are inferior to those provided white pupils. Second, that since Negro pupils are excluded from the superior schools established for white children, the educational inequalities arise out of the factor of race and consequently result in depriving the Negro children of their constitutional right to an equal education.

Third, that the inequalities found at the elementary school level are not of a fundamental nature. This is not to say, of course, that existing inequalities should not be removed. Fourth, that the inequalities found at the secondary school level are so serious and fundamental as to handicap every Negro child enrolled in these schools. Of the two Negro high schools, the Second Ward High School is accredited by the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, but the West Charlotte High School is not accredited.

Sat 7-17-48

This absence of accreditation must inescapably handicap the graduates of West Charlotte High School for it means that they are at a decided disadvantage if they attempt to enter a standard institution of higher education. This condition constitutes a definite inequality because the white high schools are fully accredited.

JUNIOR COLLEGE

The NAACP understands that a junior college has been available to the white population of Charlotte for the past few years. The junior college is not technically a part of the Charlotte school system. Nevertheless, the Charlotte Center provides an educational opportunity for the white population which is denied the Negro population. The legal question of whether the city of Charlotte or the University of North Carolina is responsible for this discrimination is being investigated by NAACP lawyers.

Kelly M. Alexander, executive secretary of the Charlotte Branch, stated that copies of the report were sent for study to the Superintendent of Charlotte Public Schools H. P. Harding, Associate Superintendent E. H. Garinger and members of the City Board of School Commissioners. In a letter to school officials the NAACP is asking that immediate steps be taken to remove the inequalities cited in the report.

Sat 7-17-48

URGE INVESTIGATION OF PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOLS

The Negro Star
Wichita Kansas
7-2-48

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Proposals for an investigation of widespread practices of segregation and discrimination against colored pupils and teachers throughout Pennsylvania and suggestions for adoption of suitable amendments to the State School Code, were presented by a state-wide committee of organizations which met with the Joint State Government Commission in the Capitol.

Participating in the conference held here on June 4, were: Floyd L. Logan, president of the Educational Equality League, Philadelphia; Nathan Agran, director of Community Services, Jewish Community Relations Council, Philadelphia; Miss Fern M. Colborn of the division of Social Education and Action, Presbyterian Church; William P. Webb, Director, Elks Civil Liberties League.

Representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People were Franklin M. Williams, assistant special counsel, New York; Joshua O. Thompson, president of the Pennsylvania State Conference NAACP; Dr. Harry J. Greene, Philadelphia, chairman of NAACP Education Committee; Gloster B. Current, director of branches, New York; Mrs. Jeanne S. Scott, Pittsburgh NAACP; and Rev. F. D. Gholston, Harrisburg NAACP. Among others present were Dr. Joseph A. Randall, Harrisburg Non-Partisan League and Carl L. Finley, Harrisburg.

7-2-48

Facts presented in the hearing were based upon a recent survey of public school systems in Pennsylvania, conducted by Rufus Smith, assistant field secretary of NAACP. Mr. Smith's survey found that segregated schools are maintained thruout the state, general unwillingness to integrate Negro teachers, denial of opportunity to instruct other than Negro pupils and discouragement of Negro participation in school activities, particularly dramatics, where there was integration.

American Public School Education

The Lighthouse and Informer
Columbia S.C.
Sun.
6-6-48

PHILADELPHIA — (NNPA) — The appearance of President Truman at Girard College here last Thursday was without incident except of sign-carrying pickets who appeared both at the 30th Street Station and outside the walls of the college to protest the fact that the school does not admit colored orphans.

Some of the placards paraded by the pickets read: "Negro Orphans Banned at Girard College," "Down With Jim Crow at Girard College," and "Mr. President tell Girard what you told the South."

Old Stephen Girard, in his will, left $30,000 to his house servant Hannah, a slave, and gave her her freedom. In providing for the college, however, he directed that the students be "poor male white orphan children."

Speaking extemperaneously to the students of Girard, Mr. Truman criticized the "disgraceful" financial situation of the public school system of the country.

"In the present day our public schools are so over-crowded that there are many places where the teachers are not able to call their pupils by name," he said "because they have so many of them they Hannah, a slave, and gave her they are.

"The financial situation of our public school system is something disgraceful in the richest country in the world. Underpaid teachers, not enough room for the children to get an education that they ought to have. You can't live in this day and age without an education."

Prominent Columnist Says Univ. Training For Negroes In South Nearly Non - Existent

14 Discrim.

The Weekly Review

Birmingham, Ala.

Sat. 4-17-48

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a recent article entitled "Sees Hyprocrisy by Republicans in congress." Ralph W. Page, columnist of the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, said the most vital discrimination against the Negro race in the South is the lack of adequate educational opportunities, and facilities.

Birmingham, Ala.

Mr Page, son of the late Hon. Walter Page, U. S. Ambassador to Great Britian, and of North Carolinia, wrote in his column:

The Weekly Review

"Congressmen, particularly Repulicians, are proclaiming a great love for the under priviledged Negroes and flocking to vote for the Civil Liberties bill. There is a deal of hyprocrisy in this display of affection, which is expected to pay substantial political dividends and costs nothing.

Sat. 4-17-48

"But the most vital discrimination against this race in the South and the one that perpetuates all others, is such a lack of schooling that it is condemned to ignorance and impotence. University training is practically non-existent. Of $81,500,000 appropriated by these States for such training, only 4½ million was Negroes. But that's not the worst. Without any substantial elementary and secondary schools, there is no opportunity for these citizens to reach the university stage

Birmingham, Ala.

The Weekly Review

Princess Anne Fo Opportunity To E

Journal + Guide

THE voters of Princess Anne county have now, within a span of less than seven months, twice forfeited an opportunity to live up to their obligations as citizens in the matter of decent and equal school facilities for all of the children of the county. Norfolk

Last December 16 they voted 432 to 167 against a bond issue which would have financed a building and improvement program. On June 29 they voted, by 359 to 331, against a bond issue of $250,000 to build a decent high school for Negro children. Sat. 9-10-48

However, in the same election they voted approval for much more than that amount for new buildings and improvements to existing buildings for white pupils. Whatever the needs are for the latter, and they unquestionably exist, the dire shortcomings in the physical facilities for colored youth are much more acute. In simple justice, the voters should have realized this and had the courage, decency, and humanity to act accordingly.

There is but one recourse, and none can criticize the action when it is taken, and that recourse is promptly to seek redress through the courts of justice.

The people most affected by the adverse vote of last Tuesday have been more than patient. In 1946 the JOURNAL AND GUIDE vividly depicted in stories, editorials, and pictures the woeful school situation in the county. A special commission named as a result of that expose, recommended substantial improvements and corroborated the GUIDE's findings. The school board of the county acknowledged the needs and recommended favorable action.

While Negro citizens in at least four other Virginia counties sought relief in the Federal District Court—and got it in sweeping unequivocal decisions—our people in Princess Anne county held similar steps in abeyance.

Their hope was that other steps, admittedly less likely to result in frictions and tensions, would be successful. That hope has been shown to have been in vain. 9-10-48

Petition, prayers, appeals, mediation, patience, forbearance, and all the other virtues so often urged upon the minority groups as steps preferable to court litigation, have all been fully tried in the case of the schools of Princess Anne county. There are many good white people who earnestly tried to have justice done at the polls. They are disappointed too.

When people show such callous disregard for the equities in a situation as the majority voters of the county did on June 29, there can be no lack of sympathy and support for any effort that is made through the courts to right the wrong. This newspaper thinks such action should be instituted forthwith.

Nonsegregation Scored by Tuck

The Constitution

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 9—(UP) Gov. William M. Tuck tonight denounced attempts to register Negroes in public schools of two Virginia counties and said backers of President Truman's civil rights program "will not force upon the people of Virginia this curse of nonsegregation in our schools." Fri 9-10-48

The Governor's statement backed up school officials in King George and Gloucester Counties who refused to admit Negroes today. Atlanta, Ga.

Tuck said "segregation of th races in the public schools is called for in the fundamental law It has been observed throughout the history of the Commonwealth and will continue to be observed."

Va. Officials Threatened With Contempt

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
Wed

Failure To Provide Equal Educational Facilities Cited

9-15-48

RICHMOND, Va. — (NNPA) — School officials of Gloucester and King George Counties are threatened with contempt of court proceedings as a result of their failure to provide equal educational facilities for colored children or admit them to white schools.

An order of the Federal court at Richmond requires the two counties to equalize school facilities for colored and white children.

Last Thursday a group of colored students applied for admission to white schools in Golucester and King George Counties after attorneys declared that counties had failed to provide equal facilities in accordance with the court order.

ADMISSION DENIED

Admission was denied by school authorities on the ground that enrollment of the colored children would violate Virginia's Jim Crow statutes. 9-15-48

The pupils returned to the colored schools, and the attorneys indicated that they will go back to Federal court with a request that the two boards and superintendents be cited for contempt for alleged failure to comply with the order.

Attempts of the colored pupils to enroll in the white schools was intended by counsel to protect the interest of their clients should the court inquire whether an effort had been made to utilize the more adequate facilities of the white schools.

A number of school patrons also were on hand, as was the case in King George, and J. S. Carrington, of South Boston, a board member of the State NAACP organization, took part. Daily World

After the inspection there was unanimous agreement with Mr. Hill's statement that "no substantial improvements" have been made since the issuance of the court order several months ago.

To plant of the Gloucester Training School is made up of a number of frame buildings, each with a covering of bricklike appearance. Buildings include those used for high school, elementary grades, science study, home economics and shop work. Atlanta, Ga.

CONDITIONS NOTED

The group noted a number of conditions which, it was maintained, make the plant inferior to Botetourt High School. Contrast was drawn especially between the "fire trap" stoves and ers in the high school building and exposed building, the space heatthe central heating of the Botetourt plant. Wed. 9-15-48

Painting of much of the woodwork, some new flooring investibules repairs to windows and and refrigerator in the home ecshades and a new electric stove homic department were listed as the major improvement noted last Thursday.

Electric lights also had been installed in an additional building a quantity of laboratory glassware had been received in the science building and running water had been installed there, it was pointed out.

Mr. Carter was especially critical of "new equipment" in the workshop. He pointed to "old tables and discarded motors," and declared they were sent there when the white school "got modern, new stuff with safety devices and everything." Wed
"white" man who discovers his

Following the tour eighteen elementary school students and eleven high school students who had not registered for the year were selected for the five-mile trip to Gloucester and the white school. 9-15-48

Virginians Refuse To Enroll "Inadequate" County School

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

RICHMOND, Va.—(ANP)— Approximately 450 Negro students declined to register at the King George Training School on opening day here last week, on advice of a four-man Negro inspection group. Their refusal followed a report by the inspection team that supposed improvements at the school were "inadequate." Atlanta, Ga.

Members of the inspecting group were Attys. Martin A. Martin and Spottswood W. Robinson, II, and J. Rupert Picott, executive secretary, Virginia Teachers association; and W. Lester Banks, secretary, Virginia NAACP conference.

The quartet made a two-hour inspection of classrooms, buildings and grounds last Wednesday and found "recent" improvements to be "disappointing and wholly inadequate." School Supt. T. Benton had reported additions and improvements which would bring the county school board in line with a federal district court order to equalize education facilities for Negro children under its care. Wed. 9-15-48

FURTHER ACTION

The attorneys, Martin and Robinson, of Richmond, told their clients not to register at the training school for the opening of the fall term. Instead, they instructed the students to report back to the school a 8:30 Thursday "for further action" to obtain equal educational facilities. 9-15-48

This was taken to mean that Robinson and Martin would attempt to register the children at the all-white King George High School which is nearby. If this effort failed, they are believed ready to ask the district court to cite the King George School board for contempt for its alleged failure to provide segregated equality of facilities. Daily World

The inspection group was particularly displeased with the vaunted 2,000 additional books which are supposed to make up the library for the Negro school. Some of the volumes were antiques and included:

1. Report of librarian of congress 1905; 2. Kladderadatsch, 1874—a book of rhymes printed in German (the school has no language courses); 3. 1925 Year book of the Carnegie Endowment for International peace; 4, "Love Letters of a Workly Woman," a heap paper back ed Technical journal of th Bell Telephone system, dated 193' 6. "The Roll Code of Morals, the Blues of Duty for Children, by Jacob Abbott, author of the "Rollo Book" and others published in 1841; 7. "Drei Wohcen in Deutschland" apparently a German textbook. Daily World Atlanta

NEW ADDITIONS

The inspection group also noted new additions to the school laboratory including a two-burner gas burner gas range, not yet attached to a gas pipe; a half dozen bottles of chemicals and acids, a mic scope, approximately two doze test tubes and pamphlets on agricultural subjects.

A number of parents of pupils scheduled to register at the training school Wednesday refused to enroll their childreu until the inspection was completed J. E. Tolliver, secretary of the parent teacher association of the training school and other parents followed the inspection group on its tour of the outdor toilet facilities and the classrooms for the department of home economics. Daily World

E. B. Webb, principal of the school, took no part in the inspection, but opened all the buildings to the visiting group. 9-15-48

He said 13 teachers at the school expected an enrollment of approximately 380 students this fall. Approximately 86 students were expected to enroll for high school courses. Atlanta, Ga.

The county had been issuing statements about the improvements being made in the school which would bring it up to the standard of the white schools in the same area. However, the visiting delegation cold-watered the high hopes of the county board of education and the students on Wednesday were awaiting further action.

A LESSON FOR PREJUDICE

New Republic

Federal District Judge Sterling Hutcheson ruled in March that several Virginia school boards "are perpetually enjoined and restrained from discriminating against . . . Negro school children . . . in providing and maintaining school facilities."

Mon 10-11-48

The school board of King George County, Virginia, complied with the order in the usual separate but unequal way. It hired a science teacher, fired a history teacher, and then required the science teacher to instruct in both subjects. It provided a useless two-burner hot plate for the lab and "improved" the Negro library by sending 2,000 volumes, including German textbooks and novels (the school teaches no German), 10 volumes of the Bell Telephone Quarterly, a book on Hungarian celebrities (published in 1851), and the history of "the Medical Department of the US Army in World War I."

New York, N.Y.

Like King George County, the rest of Virginia's school system is Jim Crow. Negro teachers receive less pay than white teachers in many of the state's 100 counties. Negro pupils have to travel farther to attend schools that are old, run-down, crowded and often lack sanitation facilities. Several of the Negro high schools are not accredited because they do not offer the same courses given in white schools.

Mon 10-11-48

On October 22, the officials of the King George County school board will appear before Judge Hutcheson to face a federal contempt charge for their failure to equalize school facilities. If the outcome forces Virginia to clean its schoolhouses, a precedent will be set for long-delayed action in other Southern states.

Tuck Defies Washington; Says He'll Fight for Segregation

Wash. Post

Richmond, Va., Nov. 10 (AP).—Governor Tuck today told the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation he opposes the mingling of white and Negro school children, and criticized school consolidation when it goes "too far."

Thurs 11-11-48

"I am opposed to Negro and white children going to school together in Virginia," the Governor said, "and I am opposed to the abolition of segregation in any form in this State.

"I will continue to work to that end—regardless of sentiment in Washington."

Wash. D.C.

The Governor said, however, he favored providing adequate facilities for Negro school children.

Noting the trend toward school consolidation, especially in the rural areas of the State, Governor Tuck said he thought consolidation could be carried to the extreme.

"Concrete and mortar don't educate people, and you can't educate them in school buses," he said.

Thurs 11-11-48

The Governor added he intends to "find out soon how much of our school funds are being spent on school bus transportation."

Va. School Bias Is Blasted Anew

The Courier

3 More Counties Guilty Of Race Discrimination

Sat 1-17-48

(From Pittsburgh Courier Press Service)

Pittsburgh Pa.

RICHMOND, Va.—Three Virginia counties—Gloucester, King George and Chesterfield—were found guilty of discrimination against Negro pupils and teachers here last Thursday.

Judge Sterling Hutcheson of the Federal District Court here announced that he would enter declaratory injunctions forbidding the school boards of the three counties from continuing discrimination aginst Negroes.

Judge Hutcheson last week ruled that Surry County was guilty of discriminating against colored teachers and students and issued an order requiring that the differentials in teachers' salaries be removed within a year, and ordering relief for the plaintiff in all discriminatory charges.

Under this second ruling, the other three counties involved will be required to bring their educational facilities for colored up to the standards maintained for white. This includes equalizing teachers' salaries.

Compliance May Require Unified Classroom Work

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

RICHMOND, Va.—(NNPA)—The school boards of Cloucester and King George Counties may be required to operate mixed classes of white and colored pupils to comply with court orders directed against them.

Judge Sterling Hutcheson in the United States District Court here last Friday entered final orders directing the school boards of the two counties to equalize educational facilities for colored and white pupils.

Thur 8-5-48

At the same time he issued another order directing the school board of Chesterfield County to equalize the salary scales of white and colored teachers.

The orders will serve to enforce opinions handed down by Judge Hutcheson on April 8. While they are effective immediately, the boards have until the opening of the fall term to comply with the injunctions.

E. S. H. Green, superintendent of schools in Chesterfield County, last Friday said he did not know what the county board of education would comply with Judge Hutcheson's order.

8-5-48

THE ALTERNATIVES

If race segregation is not abandoned in the public schools and mixed classes organized, Cloucester and King George Counties have the following alternatives:

(1) All schools in the counties could remain closed until separate and equal facilities are provided for colored pupils.

(2) Schools, teachers and pupils could be exchanged. Colored teachers and pupils taking over white facilities and whites sent into colored buildings.

(3) All schools could be reorganized as to function and type on a regional basis, with whites concentrated in school buildings in one area of the county, and colored pupils inequal facilities in another area.

8-5-48

PRIVATE AGREEMENT

(5) A private agreement between the school boards and the plaintiffs might be effected, whereby the plaintiffs would agree not to tell the court that its injunction was being violated made concrete promises that new building programs for separate colored schools were being hurried to completion.

None of these alternatives is regarded as satisfactory. As for an agreement between the plaintiffs sought unsuccessfully for months to obtain a promise of new building programs for the colored schools.

Colored residents of the two counties also are said to fear they will loose the benefits of their victory if they compromise. Other discrimination suits are planned, and these suits might be weakened if compromises were made.

Judge Hutcheson also filed findings of fact supplemental to those set forth in his opinions in April. "Let us dwell together in Unity"

Pave Way To Get Evidence In School Bias

The Lighthouse
Sun 1-11-48
Columbia S.C.

RICHMOND, VA (NNPA)- A Federal District Court order last Monday paved the way for plaintiffs to obtain desired evidence in two cases charging race discrimination in the school system of two Virginia counties.

Judge Sterling Hutcheson signed the order directing that plaintiffs in Gloucestor and Surry Counties be permitted to enter and photograph any "buildings, classrooms, laboratories, or any other of the physical property owned or operated by the defendants."

Defendants in the two suits, similar to two others filed by colored parents in Chesterfield and King George County, include the school boards of the respective counties and other officials of the county and the school system.

Judge Hutcheson also directed the issuance of subpoenas requiring superintendents of schools in Gloucester and Surry to appear in Federal District Court with comprehensive records of school activities in their counties since 1935.

EARLY TRIALS

The jurist said the Surry case would be heard in court here in February and the Gloucester case in Newport News District court on January.

Sun 1-11-48

Judge Hutcheson's action climaxed a month-long attempt on the parts of Attys. O W. Hill, M. O. Martin, and Spotswoods Robinson, counsel for the plaintiffs, to obtain a court order authorizing them to photograph and inspect school property which they believe will help them prove there is discrimination in pay and facilities available to colored sudents .

The Judge instructed the Surry defendants to have their facilities available for inspection on January 24 and the Gloucester defendants to be prepared for a visit from the plaintiffs on January 3.

There are a number of plaintiffs, representing school children a well as adults, in the two suits, but it was presumed that the counsel would do the actual inspecting.

Judge Hutcheson instructed superintendents of schools in the two counties to appear in court with these records, among others:

All salary schedules scales of salaries, and other memoranda used in fixing individual salaries.

Reports from administering officers concerning salaries of teachers, principals, librarians, janitors, and bus drivers in the counties' schools or connected with the schools.

Sun 1-11-48

Minutes of all school board meetings since 1935.

Copies of all contracts of teachers, principals, librarians, janitors, and bus drivers in or connected with schools of the counties from 1935 until the present.

Negroes Plan New Virginia Court Actions

The Afro
Sat 9-11-48
Wash D.C.

Negro attorneys in Richmond yesterday prepared to turn to the courts in their struggle against Virginia's segregated school system.

Lawyers who led Thursday's unsuccessful attempts to enroll a group of Negro students in white schools in King George and Gloucester Countiees said they would:

1. File a motion early next week in the Federal District Court asking that school officials in the two counties be held in contempt of a court directive last July to provide equal school facilities for Negroes.

2. File a new discrimination suit against King George County authorities demanding equal pay for white and Negro teachers there.

At the same time the Virginia Commisison on State and Local Revenues and Expenditures met to consider plans aimed at getting a clearer picture on the State's school needs.

On the agenda as the group met behind closed doors in the Capitol building at Richmond was the presentation of a questionnaire calling for information on immediate school needs as well as long-range requirements.

Martin A. Martin, attorney for Negro students in King George County, announced earlier he was meeting with Virginia officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to prepare a motion asserting that the school board has failed to provide equal facilities for Negroes and seeking contempt of court action.

Sat 9-11-48

Martin said the group does not seek dissolution of the State's segregation at this time but rather provision of equal facilities. However, he added, he could not see how the latter can be accomplished immediately without the former.

He also vowed to file a new discrimination suit against county school officials on the equal pay issue, a move striking at Wednesday's shift of a Negro school principal of the King George Training School and two of his teachers. The three were made assistants to their counterparts in the nearby whites, in an administrative shake-King George High School, for up which Martin labeled a "direct reprisal" against Negro citizens.

Testimony In School Suit Ends

Journal And Guide
Norfolk Va.

Sat 1-24-48

Defendants Deny Any Overt Action Of Discrimination

Norfolk Va.

By JAMES N. RHEA

NEWPORT NEWS. Va.—United States District Judge Sterling Hutcheson late Wednesday, Jan. 14 took under advisement evidence in the case of colored citizens of Glouceser county vs. county school officials heard here Tuesday and Wednesday and made it optional with both sides to file analytical memoradna by Feb. 1.

1-24-48

The plaintiffs contended Tuesday that Gloucester county officials have systematically denied them educational facilities equal to those provided for white persons.

Judge Hutcheson said that he would consider a motion by Defense Counsel Charles E. Ford that the judge visit the schools involved before delivering an opinion on the case. Mr. Ford said he thought such a visit would facilitate evaluation of pictorial evidence introduced for the records by both sides.

KENNY ON STAND

In a tense period of examination and cross-examination Wednesday. J. Walter Kenny, division superintendent and one of the defendants, said that school officials had at no time purposely discriminated against any group of students.

He attributed the difference in salaries of white and Negro teachers partly to insufficient funds, and partly to the fact that white teachers were harder to employ during the war period. During the war, he said, the board had to compete with industry for suitable teacher personnel.

It was not a matter of how much the board would offer a white teacher, he said, but of how much the white teacher wanted. Such teachers were for a considerable period in position to name their own salaries, he explained.

Mr. Kenny testified that the ratio of 15 square feet per pupil in classrooms was met neither in all the whtie nor in all the colored schools, and named examples. There was no designated music teacher in any school, he said, explaining that music was taught by various teachers of other subjects.

Plans have been made for building new high schools for both races, he said. Construction will be started, he added, as soon as circumstances permit.

Attorney Will Take Children To White School If Necessary

Journal Guide

Sat 8-21-48

NEWPORT NEWS, Va.—Martin A. Martin, Richmond attorney threatens to take colored school children to the white school in Gloucester county and demand that they be allowed to attend, it was disclosed in a statement by the attorney on Tuesday of last week.

Norfolk, Va.

Martin, one of the attorneys who who instituted suit against the Gloucester county school board charging discrimination and lack of equal facilities for colored students, said in a statement in Richmond that if the Gloucester situation is not worked out and a rehearing is not granted the school board that he "would be forced to insist on the enforcement of the court order."

"In September," he is quoted as saying, "I shall take my clients to the white school and insist they be allowed to attend."

Martin's statement was due to the report that the Gloucester school board had asked a rehearing of the case of last April which found that facilities for colored children were not equal to those provided for the whites. Judge Sterling Hutcheson of the U. S. District Court ordered the school board to equalize facilities for the white and colored school children.

MOTION FILED

The motion for a rehearing of the case was filed August 7 by Charles E. Ford, of Newport News, and George P. DeHardit, of Gloucester county, attorneys for the school board. They requested a [illegible] hearing and not a new trial, it was explained.

Mr. Martin said he had not been approached by the Gloucester board to "work this thing out," referring to Judge Hutcheson's order to equalize facilities.

Sat 8-21-48

Judge Hutcheson ordered the school board of Gloucester, Chesterfield and King George counties to equalize educational facilities for white and colored children. The latter two counties have moved to comply with the court order, but Chesterfield has also announced plans to appeal.

State Superintendent Reports 10-Year Gains

Journal & Guide

(14)

Norfolk, Va.

Asks That Cooperation From Race Leaders Take Place Of Court Injunctions

RICHMOND, Va.—Educational opportunities for Negro children as compared with those available to white in Virginia, have been increased substantially during the past decade, according to G. Tyler Miller, state superintendent of public instruction. Mr. Miller made the statement Saturday in a special report as he urged Negro leaders to cooperate rather than seek high court injunctions in obtaining equality in schools.

Sat. 10-2-48

The state superintendent who issued the statement in answer to federal court suits for better colored schools, cited six examples of progress made in providing better educational opportunities.

NEED MORE TIME

Leaders of Negro patrons were urged by Mr. Miller, to allow sufficient time for obtaining additional school facilities before appealing to federal courts. Court orders for required construction and improvement of Negro school buildings do not allow sufficient time for accomplishing the desired objective, the superintendent said.

All teachers' salaries will be equal by the 1949-50 school year, he predicted, while emphasizing that the "quality of the educational program depends more upon the teacher than upon buildings or any other factor."

DIFFERENCE SLIGHT

The state superintendent based his forecast on the gradual elimination of the salary differential throughout the state. During the 1947-48 session, he said, salaries were equalized in all except 30 counties and five cities and, in most of these places, only slight differences existed between the salaries of Negro and white teachers with equal training and experience.

Referring to the recent court orders against discrimination in King George, Gloucester and Surry counties, Mr. Miller said that much emphasis has been placed on the inequality of physical facilities (plant and equipment) for Negro pupils as compared to those for white.

He explained that excessive cost of building, the lack of local funds and the inability to secure loans from the State Literary Fund has placed local school boards in "a dilemma."

CITES SIX POINTS

The school official used the six following points as examples of progress made in educational opportunities.

Sat. 10-2-48

(1) In 1946-47, the average salary for white female teachers was $1,735 and for Negroes, $1,724, a differential of only $11. This is compared with 1941-42 when the white female teachers averaged $857 and the Negro, $632, a $225 difference; and in 1936-37 when the average salary for white teachers was $847 and for Negro, $537, a gap of $311.

(2) The per capita expenditure for instruction of Negro children increased from $14.12 in 1936-37, to $62.49 in 1946-47, a jump of 345 per cent. In 1936-37, the per capita outlay for white schools was $28.68 and in 1946-47, $76 14.

(3) Despite the impossibility of constructing school buildings during the war, the value of school property (buildings and equipment) for Negroes increased from $7,577,317 in 1936-37 to $16,758,515 in 1946-47, a raise of $9.208,198 or over 120 per cent. The value of school property for white students increased only 82 per cent.

(4) In 1936-37, only 1,036 or 25.6 per cent, of Negro teachers held the collegiate or collegiate professional teacher's certificate, while 5,590 or 42.7 per cent of the white teachers held the two highest certificates.

In 1946-47, however, after salaries of white and Negro teachers had been almost equalized, 2,620, or 55.9 per cent of the Negro teachers held the collegiate certificates as compared to only 7,447, or 50 per cent of the white teachers. During recent years it also has been necessary to employ relatively fewer teachers with substandard certificates for Negro schools than for white.

123 AWARDS MADE

(5) Award of state scholarships to potential teachers was based on the 1945 school census showing the Negro school population as 27 per cent of the total in the state. Of the 496 regular $300 scholarships approved for 1948-49, 123 went to Negro college students, and of the 593 summer scholarships for $100, 191 went to Negro applicants.

(6) In 1946-47, the number of school buses used to transport Negro children was 465 as compared to 363 in 1941-42. For white children, the number of buses dropped from 2,070 in 1941-42 to 2,055 five years later. In 1941-42, there were 163,104 white children and 21,409 Negro transported to school, while in 1946-47 there were 181,872 white and 37,326 Negro riding school buses. This advance, Miller said, was made despite the war period when it was difficult to secure buses.

Sat. 10-2-48

PLAN IS NOT NEW

Local school boards in Virginia have been planning, he continued, **improved school facilities for the** past ten years. Since 1938, his office has appointed about 70 survey committees for the purpose of studying conditions and recommending needed school buildings and transportation facilities, including consolidation of schools, at the request of school authorities.

Mr. Miller added that the survey committees, likewise, "have given careful consideration to the needed building facilities for improved programs of instruction for both white and Negro pupils."

BUILDING EQUALITY IMPOSSIBLE

It is impossible to provide for "complete equality of building facilities as between white schools or between white and Negro schools, he pointed out, since the last school building constructed is usually the most modern, the most complete and the most satisfactory unit, and obviously all school buildings cannot be built at exactly the same time."

He then named several counties and cities, which, during recent years, have provided "building facilities for Negro pupils equal and, in some instances, superior to those provided for white pupils."

LISTS EXAMPLES

They were listed as Maggie Walker High School in Richmond, a number of elementary schools and the high school for Negroes recently completed or now being constructed in Chesterfield county; the new regional high school for Negroes, now being constructed in Culpepper county to serve Rappahannock, Madison, Orange and Culpepper counties; and new modern schools for Negroes in Loudoun and Middlesex counties.

On further discussion of improved salary situation for Negro teachers during the past 10 years, Mr. Miller said that the Negro schools are securing more adequate supply of trained teachers, as reflected by the grades of certificates held.

Studying substandard certificates he found that in 1936-37 only four white and seven Negro teachers held local (or non-degree) permits.

In 1946-47, 2,928, or 19.6 per cent of the white teachers held emergency licenses or local permits, while in the same year, 340, or only 7.2 per cent, of the Negro teachers held similar substandard certificates.

Besides the awarding of scholarships to prospective Negro teachers, Mr. Miller reported that during 1947-48, 503 Negroes, who enrolled in graduate and professional courses in out-of-state institutions, secured aid from the state appropriation for graduate work.

About 224 of these students were enrolled in education or child development courses, presumably to secure more adequate preparation for teaching in the public schools or in colleges.

He concluded that the increased supply of well-trained teachers has provided for "better instruction in the Negro schools."

Full Parity Sought For Negro Children

World, Atlanta Ga.

(14)

Thu. 9-23-48

RICHMOND, Va.—(NNPA)— Steps being taken or under consideration looking toward the equalization of education facilities for colored pupils with those of white pupils in Surry County were outlined by the county school board in a report filed last Wednesday in the Federal District Court here.

An order of March 30 by Federal Judge Sterling Hutcheson found there was discrimination against colored pupils in Surry and directed the school board as expeditiously as possible to provide equal educational facilities for colored pupil.

The board, in an 11-point report, indicated that in some respects equipment now in colored schools is superior to that in white, and made it clear that on all points covered it intends to eliminate inequalities.

9-23-48 Thu.

The Surry School reported to the court substantially as follows:

(1) All requirements for having the school accredited have been completed and a report submitted to the State Department of Education. If there are other requirements not known, the board will meet them to have "This school fully accredited for the current school year."

Thu. 9-23-48

(2) Some 2,300 volumes have been moved from the white school consisting of duplicates, antiquated and worn books. The duplicates have been made available to the colored school. The white high school now has 2,800 volumes; the colored school has 2,600, are on on order for delivery this month. This will not only "equalize the books as far as numbers are concerned, but in dollar value the Negro Training School library in Dendron will be greater."

PROGRESS NOTED

Appropriate liberary table and chairs and adequate shelves have been provided for the colored school. school.

(3) Much is to be desired in improving laboratory equipment at both schools and the two laboratories are approximately equal.

(4) Both white and colored high schools have a full-time janitor.

9-23-48

(5) All schools have sanitary lavatories. In the unconsolidated colored schools there are sanitary pit privies which would be eliminated in the proposed consolidation.

(6) There are adequate facilities for heating all schools.

(7) The board has bought a lot 111-by-600 feet, adjoining the colored school at Dendron, and is building a structure 32-by-84 feet to be ready about October 1. It will house two class rooms, The rest of the lot will be used to enlarge the playground.

At the white school, shop tools and equipment were secured primarily through the efforts of the vocational agriculture instructor and interest of local citizens over a period of years, mostly without cost to the county. Pupils built work benches, cabinets and fixtures, poured concrete floor, built and painted all cabinets, built two electric grinders. Both schools have ample small hand tools.

"The board expects to and will provide adequate equipment for the Negro training school for instruction in vocational agriculture and shop work for the current school year," the summary said.

The consent order of Judge Hutcheson had found discrimination in the "policy, practice, custom and usage" of denying colored pupils the right of enrolling in an accredited high school, giving them unconsolidated schools, buildings, sanitorial services, lavatories, heating and lighting unequal to white; denying adequate bus transportation consistently paying teachers less and failing to provide courses in commerce and science, trades and industries for colored students.

The court ordered the school board to report on progress by September 15, and to report when it expects to begin construction of colored school buildings sufficient to equalize and when completion is expected.

The State Department of Education survey report on Surry schools pointed to a 36.3 per cent population decrease over a 30-year period and a school population decrease. It noted that for maximum efficiency and economy educationally and financially a high school should have from 600 to 1,200 pupils.

The report said that the white high school now has 97 pupils, the colored 101. The decrease in population trend probably will continue and the evidence clear dicates Surry cannot hope to have in the predictable future an enrollment of high school pupils sufficient to provide an adequate program of secondary education, the report said.

Thur 9-23-48

It recommended that school authorities of Surry approach Sussex authorities for the purpose of establishing a jointly owned and operated white high school and a colored high school, both to accept a few Isle of Wight pupils from near by; that the elementary school center for white pupils at Surry Courthouse; that all the colored elementary schools be consolidated into two school centers, one at or near Dendron, the other at or near Surry Courthouse.

Gloucester County School Suit Argued

Journal Guide

(14)

By James N. Rhea

NEWPORT NEWS Sat 1-24-48 A long and detailed list of alleged discriminatory practices in public education was charged against school officials of Gloucester county by colored citizens suing under the 14th Amendment and certain sections of the Judicial Code in United States District Court here on Jan. 13.

Norfolk, Va.

The suit charges that the county school authorities have persistently denied the colored citizens of the county educational facilities equal to those provided for the white citizens.

Fifty-five pictorial documents and a comprehensive collection of statistics were presented as evidence before Judge Sterling Hutcheson by the plaintiffs, who are supported by the state conference of the NAACP.

RESIDENTS BRING SUIT

Sixty-five Gloucester county residents, the majority of whom are legal infants represented by parents or other next friends are listed as plaintiffs in the action seeking to restrain the School Board of Gloucester county and J. Walter Kenny, division superintendent, from further adherence to the reported discrimination.

The pictures, which showed the inadequacy of facilities for the county's Negro students, were taken by J. Andrew Bowler, photographer for the Journal and Guide, and Mr. Allan G. Broadnax of Richmond, both of whom testified for plaintiffs that the pictures accurately represented what they saw.

The majority of the statistics, largely presented on chart, were compiled by Miss Evelyn Shaed, statistical consultant for the Virginia Teachers Association, former statistician for Howard University and former business analyst for the government of the United States. As a witness, she interpreted the chart for the court.

SALARY DIFFERENTIAL

She testified that the difference between salaries of Negro and white teachers is not based on difference in training and longevity because on the average Negro teachers have more experience and a higher percentage of certificates based on college degrees than white teachers.

Sat 1-24-48

Except for the current year, she said, no Negro teacher in the county received as much as the lowest paid white teacher on the secondary level. Speaking of the general increase in salaries during recent years, the statistician said that by 1947 Negro teachers had not reached the salaries paid white teachers in 1941.

PAY OF PRINCIPALS

The principal of Gloucester County Training School for Negroes was paid $1916.60 for 1947-48, she said, while the white principals in Achiles and Boutetourt high schools were paid $3,000.

Other statistical data formed the basis of testimony offered by J. Rupert Picott, executive secretary of the Virginia Teachers Association. He said that the per capita cost of instruction is generally lower for Negroes than for whites in the county.

Citing figures from the annual reports of the superintendent of public instruction in Virginia, Mr. Picott said that the smaller the number of students, the greater should be the per capita cost. On the whole, he said, Negro schools have fewer students, but the per capita cost is less.

FIXTURES OUT OF ORDER

Another plaintiff witness, William H. Carter, former treasurer of Tuskegee Institute and president of the Gloucester School PTA, testified that certain fixtures had not functioned properly at the school when the suit was filed.

Specifically he mentioned a toilet, which he said had been out of use several days before the Christmas holidays; the absence of light fixtures in Gloucester Elementary School, and a malfunctioning water fountain. Citizens have been petitioning the school board since 1938 for improvements, he testified.

Sat 1-24-48

Other witnesses for the plaintiffs testified as to adequate bus transportation, one declaring that two oil lanterns were placed in the aisle of a school bus "to warm your feet by," there being no other heat mechanism on the bus. Several testified as to long walks to bus stops.

D. Cooper, principal of Gloucester County Training School, testified as to the inadequate classroom space and the lack of a sound device in the visual-aid facilities recommended by the State. He also testified about the library and certain courses offered.

Typing and shorthand have been placed in the curricula this year, he said, testifying that these courses were not offered before. He estimated the value of equipment for scientific study at only $200.

SUPERINTENDENT TESTIFIES

J. Walter Kenny, division superintendent, testified as an adverse witness, that a request was made in 1941 for equalization of salaries, but that full equalization had not been made. A plan by which the pay of colored teachers would be increased 15 per cent in 1941-42, 10 per cent in 1942-43, and enough to finish meeting equalization in 1943-44 was carried out for all except the latter period, he said.

The plaintiffs were represented by Martin A. Martin, Oliver W. Hill, Victor J. Ashe, W. Hale Thompson, and R. Wendell Walker, all of the NAACP legal staff.

George R. DeHardit of Gloucester county, Charles E. Ford and Daniel W. Wilkinson of Newport News are attorneys for the defense.

The court room was filled with spectators, most of whom were Negroes. The action was to be continued Wednesday, Jan. 14.

Committee Finds School 'Unsatisfactory'

CHECK UP—Negro leaders from Richmond inspect a classroom in the King George Training School. They are (from left) W. Lester Banks, executive secretary of the Virginia State Conference, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Martin A. Martin, attorney; J. Ruppert Picott, executive secretary of the Virginia State Teachers Association, and Spotswood W. Robinson, attorney. They found conditions "entirely unsatisfactory"

Wash. D.C. Thur 9-9-48

Far-Reaching Educational Developments

The Journal & Guide

Sat 4-10-48

Norfolk, Va.

TWO developments of far-reaching importance took place last week and this week, affecting the education of Negroes and, specifically, the status and development of the educational program for Negroes in southern states.

There was, first of all, the announcement that the Rosenwald Fund is to cease operations after June 30, followed by a few days with the decision of the Federal District Court, at Richmond, Judge STERLING HUTCHESON presiding, that Surry county, Virginia, must cease and desist in its discriminatory school program and take immediate steps to provide Negro children equal facilities and opportunities to get an education.

The two things are significantly interrelated. Philanthropic agencies—and especially the Rosenwald Fund—have for years helped fill the educational vacuum created in the South by a dual system of schools which invariably shortchanged the Negro pupil, if it did not actually deny him an education worthy of the name.

The Rosenwald Fund was established in 1917 by JULIUS ROSENWALD and during its existence it has expended over 22 millions of dollars for projects ranging from rural schools to coveted scholarships for fellowships for writers, artists, musicians, scientists, and educators of all races and creeds.

The terms of Mr. ROSENWALD's project specified that the returns from the Sears and Roebuck Company stock, with which he capitalized the philanthropic fund, be spent within 25 years after his death. He died in 1932.

Negro colleges received $5,000,000 of the Rosenwald Fund, another $5,000,000 went to the 5,357 Negro public and rural schools in 15 backward southern states, under terms which required the local authorities to be responsible for the upkeep of the schools at a total of $20,000,000. Another $2,000,000 went into fellowships benefitting 600 Negroes and 250 whites.

Sat 4-10-48

Now that this great and generous program is to end and the outlook is that funds of its like will be far and few between in the future, officials of the states and localities have the responsibility of substituting out of public funds the facilities and opportunities offered by the Rosenwald and other funds.

That the states cannot escape that responsibility has been made clear for a long time by the consistency with which the federal courts, up to and including the Supreme Court, and a few state courts, have ruled on the issue when it has come before them for review and adjudication.

The responsibility and obligation were always present, but evasion was more successful in the past. The constitutional guarantees being increasingly invoked when other measures, including prayer and petition, fail to convince the authorities to do what the law and Constitution direct them to do, have doomed the fiction of equality with which the "separatists" have deluded themselves in the past.

That was never more obvious than in the unequivocal language of Judge HUTCHESON's ruling. He put an unconstitutional—and—void label on the sweeping variety of discriminatory practices traditionally enforced as standard in most counties of this state, and many other states, for that matter.

The Federal Court enjoined the school board of Surry county "immediately to make plans to equalize the educational facilities and opportunities for Negro children in the county."

The judgment clearly will set a pattern for other cases already filed in Chesterfield, King George, and Gloucester counties—and expected to be filed in Princess Anne and other Virginia county units. The cases in the first three named counties have already been tried on their merits in Federal Courts.

Sat 4-10-48

Bearing importantly on this point, and not without deep meaning, was the action of the attorneys for the defendant county of Surry. They, after a conference in chambers with Judge HUTCHESON, presumably agreed with the ruling, foreseeing that when such an issue comes before the federal judiciary, charged with enforcing constitutional rights, a clear-cut victory is assured for those contesting discriminatory practices.

Every day there is mounting evidence that even the late awakening of the South and its frantic moves to meet the issue by such procedures as multi-state supported colleges operated on a regional plan will have to pass tests of adequacy, legality, and acceptability.

The Negro and other minorities, so long forced to take half-loaves, will not now easily be convinced that three-quarter loaves are any better. Discrimination is no less a humiliation and no less a denial of democratic rights under any of the false-faces it has worn or will seek now to wear.

Equal School Fights Rage in 6 States

The Afro-American

Sat 2-7-48

Baltimore, Md.

In Missouri

Segregation is costly, Missouri is learning. A recent study reveals that it costs the State only $228 a year to train a white law student at the University of Missouri and $807, or nearly $600 more to train a student at the Lincoln University Law School.

Declaring that there is no need for exchanging practices, the William Jewell College, through its president, Dr. Walter P. Binns, on Jan. 29, rejected the application of the Rev. William L. Blake, 29, for admission. Both the institution and the applicant are Baptist.

In Arkansas

Sat 2-7-48

Apparently fearful of legal action, the University of Arkansas Law School announced that it would admit a colored student but added that he would be given his instruction apart from other students. The "bid" was made to Clifford Davis, who was rejected last year because his application was not in order and who is studying now at Howard University.

In an attempt to evade legal action based on evident inequalities, the State of Arkansas has begun voluntarily the work of improving educational facilities in the elementary schools. Only last May, it was estimated that over 10 million dollars would be needed to bring the colored schools up to the level of the white ones.

In Washington, however, Davis stated that he had received no official word from the university, but added that if the intention was to teach him apart from other students he would not be interested in studying there.

In New Jersey

Sat 2-7-48

Acting on the recommendation of Superintendent Leon N. Neulen, the Camden Board of Education has voted to work out details for ending the segregated system which relegates all colored teachers and 2,000 pupils to certain elementary schools.

In Virginia

With four county suits already in the courts, educators throughout the State this week expressed that another suit to compel the equalization of educational facilities would be filed on behalf of Princess Anne County.

In Georgia

Jack Singletary of Meigs, Ga., a white ministerial student at Mercer University, last week announced that he and his wife, acting in the best interests of God, had transferred their membership from the white Tattnall Square Baptist Church to the Tremont Temple Baptist Church in Macon.

In Mississippi

Plans to provide out-of-State graduate and professional training to other than medical students, who are the only ones aided at present, were revealed last week by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning in Mississippi.

Unequal Schools

Apropos of the existing dangers that threaten the press, Sir Willmott Lewis once wrote: "We desire a newspaper which shall give us the news impartially delivered and a transcript of the prevailing opinions of man, so that the readers may ponder these opinions." *The Washington Post's* recent coverage of the movement for equal school facilities in Virginia is one of many illustrations of *The Post's* acceptance of this canon of modern journalism.

Sat. 10-3-48

One of the most tragic results of the 250 mutually blighting years of the master and slave relationship in America is the white man's frequent adoption of an un-Christian and undemocratic—to say nothing of an illogical—rationale to justify his treatment of the Negro. In this connection, one should examine several examples of such a rationale which has been used often since the adoption of the civil rights plank in the Democratic Party's Platform:

Washington, D.C.

(1) J. Strom Thurmond, the Dixiecrat candidate for President, made the following observation on the Civil Rights Plank: "We believe that there are not enough troops in the Army to force the Southern people to admit the Negroes into our theaters, swimming pools and homes." This is the first of several attempts to distort the Civil Rights issue with the result that, to use the words of Ralph McGill writing recently in the *New York Times:* "Thousands of rural Southerners believe that if they vote for Truman, they will be voting for social equality, for intermarriage, for opening their schools, churches and social gatherings to Negroes . . . This party, despite its label, is really the anti-Negro party."

10-3-48

(2) Gov. Ben Laney of Arkansas made the following statements as support for his disapproval of the admission of Edith Mae Irby, a Negro, to the University of Arkansas Medical School: "Hundreds of white boys who tried to get into the medical school before were told they couldn't get in because they lacked room. If we had a medical school big enough to accommodate everybody, then the board's action would have been justified." The university board said that a class of 90 had been accepted from a list of 230 applications from Arkansas residents. Since Miss Irby was one of 90 students selected from 230 Arkansas residents on the basis of scholastic ability, no further comment is necessary on Governor Laney's statement—undemocratic, in my judgment.

Sat.

(3) *The Washington Post* account of the King George County school situation reported two comments of significance in this connection: (a) one from a "pleasant looking white haired old woman stooped with age": "That old rascal Abe Lincoln is the cause of all of this. He should have died before he was born! Him and his emancipation!" (b) Superintendent T. Benton Gayle's remark, after admitting that the Negro schools in Virginia were not equal to the white schools: "You can't run a school system properly with such funds ($143,000)." The only inference which I can draw from this remark is that white schools naturally come first; Negro schools will be equal only if funds are sufficient.

10-3-48

(4) The county school officials' justification for the present school situation in the Hoffman-Boston School in Arlington, as reported in *The Washington Post* of September 20: "In a school such as Hoffman-Boston, with only students in the secondary grades, it is economically impossible to offer as many courses as at Washington-Lee with about 2100 students.) Such a justification is undemocratic for the following reasons: Every student in the public schools of a democracy is en-

titled to develop whatever ability he may have, whether it is ability in electrical engineering or any of the numerous subjects offered at the Washington-Lee High School, but not at the Hoffman-Boston School. Why should a lad with a penchant, let us say, for trigonometry, solid geometry, Latin, civics, etc. (all not offered at the Hoffman-Boston School) be denied the opportunity to develop such a penchant merely because, as the school officials point out, there are not enough students in a segregated school to offer such courses?

The Washington Post is to be congratulated on its transcript of such opinions as those listed above so that, to quote the words of Sir Willmott Lewis, "the readers may ponder these opi[illegible]

FRANK M. SNOW[illegible], JR.
Chairman, De[illegible]ment of Classics, [illegible]ward University.
Washington.

King George Pupils To Seek Entry Today To White Institution

The Washington Post
Wash. D. C.
Thur 9-9-48

By Murrey Marder
Post Reporter

King George, Va., Sept. 8.—In Virginia's first test of a Federal order to equalize white and Negro school facilities, parents today refused to let their children register for classes at the main Negro school in King George County.

Negro leaders of the equalization fight plan to present "eight or ten" Negro pupils for registration at the all-white King George County High School Thursday morning, although neither white nor Negro leaders expect them to be registered.

While there appears to be mounting race tension in this small county seat, both sides in the dispute have announced that they expect no violence of any kind.

If registration of Negro pupils is refused at the white school, the Negro children will then register at their own school Thursday and contempt of court action will be sought against school officials here on ground that they violated a Federal court order, said Martin A. Martin, leading Negro attorney in the fight.

King George County, five miles east of Fredericksbu[illegible] Va., is one of two Virginia coun[illegible] directed by Federal District C[illegible] Judge Sterling Hutcheson to pla[illegible] Negro schools on a par with whit[illegible]cilities.

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Court orders against this county and Gloucester County were issued July 31, after an unprecedented decision last spring. Surry County, in a third case settled by consent decree, was given to September 15 to report corrective action on equalization of buildings, courses and teachers' salaries.

When the King George Training School (46 Negro pupils, grades 1 to 11) opened this morning, four Richmond Negro leaders here to "check" on compliance with the Federal equalization order, termed conditions at the school "completely unsatisfactory."

Thur 9-9-48

Despite some improvements to the school, said Martin, "in our opinion nothing substantial has been done at all—certainly not enough to make it equal to the white King George High School."

Gloucester Action Today

The action is under way here Thursday another group of Negro leaders is scheduled to appear at Gloucester County—in Chesapeake Bay, due east of Richmond—where schools open Thursday, to make their own check of equalization progress there.

Gayle

When the Negro group appears for registration at the white school in King George County on Thursday, T. Benton Gayle, superintendent of schools for both King George and Stafford Countiees, will read them the sections of the State Code and the Virginia Constitution that deal with segregation.

"I anticipated such a registration back in July," said Gayle," and wrote to G. Tyler Miller, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, asking if we could enroll Negro children in white schools. He wrote me on July 19, referring to the State Constitution and the State Code, which specifically prohibit teaching whites and Negroes in the same school."

"Until some Federal Court says the Virginia Constitution and the Code are null and void," said Gayle firmly, "I'm abiding by them."

Negro school facilities in King George County received a separate blow from an unexpected quarter late today when the State Supreme Court of Appeals refused to order the release of some five million dollars in State retirement funds planned to be lent for school construction.

Expected $40,000

"I don't know what we will do now," said Gayle, "for in that sum was our request for $40,000 which we were going to spend for a central heating plant and sanitary facilities at the Negro training school.

"The logical solution is a regional Negro high school for Fredericksburg City and King George and Stafford Counties. The officials are all for it, but the Negroes are opposed on the ground that their children will have to travel too far to reach it. "Yet, even if we had a million dollars to spend for a Negro high school in King George County," said Gayle, "it would still not help out, for there are not enough Negro pupils in the county for them to have an accredited high school."

Last year, the King George Training School (many Negro schools in Virginia with classes up to the eleventh or twelfth grade carry the "training school" designation) had an enrollment of 380 in support of the minority view, which will be handed down later in Richmond.

The court's denial of the mandamus will give an obvious acceleration to the drive of the localities for a special session of the Legislature to provide State aid for local school construction. This may take the form of a general sales tax, as has been recommended by many Virginia counties.

There was a strong likelihood in the meantime that school officials will ask the Governor to turn over the expected State surplus to the exhausted literary fund. The surplus for the last year has been estimated at 20 million dollars.

The ruling did not affect Fairfax County, according to Superintendent of Schools W. T. Woodson, because the county has already spent its $365,000 share of the anticipated loan.

When the transfer was authorized, Woodson said, the county, with approval of the State oBard of Education, let contracts and started building with its allotment.

After the five million dollars had been tied up in the court suit, the State board took unused literary fund loans granted to other counties to pay for the work already begun in Fairfax.

Giving Only "Color"

Justice Miller said the channeling of retirement fund moneys through the literary fund would simply be giving them temporary "color" as literary fund money because the interest on the indebtedness would be paid by the localities into the retirement fund.

"It should also be observed that Section 134 of the constitution dedicates the literary fund to school purposes and Section 135 directs the use of the interest thereon for the same purpose," the majority opinion said.

"Yet if this contemplated transaction be consummated, the annual interest to be paid upon these proposed obligations will not go into the literary fund as required of loans of that fund but will go into the retirement fund."

The opinion concluded that an amendment to the retirement act that would have permitted its funds to be lent to the literary fund and an amendment by the special session of 1947 to permit the fund to charge the localities 3 per cent on such loans were in violation of the constitution.

Chief Justice Hudgins handed down an opinion concurring with the majority view.

He said that "stripped of all circumlocution" the main question was whether the retirement fund's board of trustees could use the trust funds to purchase bonds or notes of the school boards of the counties without the question of the local borrowing being submitted to the voters.

"The answer to the question depends upon whether the school boards have the authority without the approval of the electors of the respective counties to incur such indebtedness," the chief justice wrote.

"If a county school board has such authority, then the board of trustees may purchase the bonds direct from the local school board, from a licensed broker, from the State board, or from any other party who has the legal right to sell them.

"If a school board has no authority to incur such indebtedness without the approval of the electors, then neither the board of trustees nor any other party can buy or sell an enforceable interest in such obligations."

Hudgins noted that the Legislature had broad power to authorize the State or any of its political subdivisions to incur long-term debts. He pointed out, however, that there were limitations of this power written in the constitution of Virginia. He said:

"Section 115A of the constitution in express terms prohibits any county or the school board of any county from contracting any long-term indebtedness unless the power to do so is conferred 'by the General Assembly by general law.'

"The constitutional prohibition doesn't stop there; the provision goes further and prohibits the General Assembly from enacting any general statutes authorizing any county or any school board of any county to contract a long-term debt unless there is contained in such statute a provision submitting to the qualified voters of the county or district the question of contracting such debt."

Negroes Refuse to Register

School 'Equalization' Tested; Retirement Fund Use Barred

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The Wash Post

Court's 5-2 Decision Blocks 5-Billion as Loans to Localities

Thur 9-9-48

Staunton, Va., Sept. 8 (AP).—The Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals today refused to order the release of State retirement funds for local school construction.

Wash. D. C.

In a 5-to-2 decision, the court refused to force the State comptroller and the State treasurer to turn over some five million dollars of retirement funds to the State literary fund for loans to localities.

It denied Attorney General J. Lindsay Almond, jr.'s petition for a writ of mandamus. He brought the action against the State fiscal officials in behalf of the State Board of Education.

Comptroller Henry G. Gilmer and Treasurer Jesse W. Dillon had declined to release the money on ground that they doubted the constitutionality of the 1946 and 1947 legislation that made it permissible.

The majority opinion was written by Justice Willis D. Miller, with Chief Justice Hudgins and Associate Justices Eggleston, Spratley and Buchanan concurring.

Justices Staples and Gregory dissented, and Staples was understood to be preparing an opinion in its 3 frame buildings about 4 miles outside this town.

Its first, second, third and sixth grades are in one building, and its fifth, fourth and seventh grades in a wing of the so-called high school. The third building is a combination home economics center with a small cafeteria where teachers said "very good" lunches were served last year for 20 cents each.

Thur 9-9-48

The school has 12 classrooms and 13 instructors, including E. B. Webb, principal since 1936. Gayle said the school board was not notified of the formal equalization order until August 5, and "we did what we could in that little time to improve things."

Reporters, who accompanied the Richmond "inspection team" around the school grounds, found that the classrooms are heated by coal stoves, most of them made out of 50-gallon oil drums. The classrooms have running water, and similar facilities were recently installed in the science room.

Other visible equipment in the science "lab" consisted of a new mocroscope for slide projections, three bottles of acid, a dozen test tubes, a two-burner gas stove not yet connected, and several insect specimens. The home economics building was best equipped, with electric stoves and a refrigerator, plus chairs and tables.

A new drill press was being installed in the agricultural vocational class, which has several other pieces of equipment.

8he school, for the first time, is establishing a commercial course, and Gayle yesterday brought in 0 new typewriters and a mimeograph machine.

No Indoor Toilets

A full-time janitor is being sought. There are no indoor toilet facilities; a new outhouse (one of three) has recently been installed for girls. The entire school plant is generally clean, but has the appearance of well-worn poverty.

Webb's office is a small shack, with what was formerly the school's only typewriter, and no telephone (there are none in the school).

Heaped up in Webb's office yesterday were 2000 recently delivered dust-covered books. "I think they came from the Fredericksburg library," said Webb, shaking his head. "They'll do very little good, in my opinion."

While some of the books are probably useful, the following were selected by reporters at random:

"The Rollo Code of Morals, or The Rules of Duty for Children" (copyright 1841); "Annual Report of the Rockefeller Foundation"; "Annual Report of the Carnegie Endowment"; "The Medical Department of the United States Army in World War I"; "The Literary Remains of the Late Willis Gaylord Clark" (copyright 1851)

14 1948

98 TEACHERS START FOR BRITAIN TODAY

Group Will Trade School Jobs With Instructors Overseas for One-Year Terms

14

Ninety-eight teachers, from an eventual total of 112, will sail at noon today to trade jobs with an equal number of teachers from the British Isles.

They are shifting from schoolrooms in the United States Corn Belt to those in English fishing villages, from the forests of Michigan to the mining country of Wales.

They are going "as ambassadors of the United States" to the children of England, Sir Francis Evans, British consul general here, told them yesterday.

Miss Nannie Foster, who has been teaching kindergarten students in Gary, Ind., is headed for a similar job at the London County Council School on Amberley Road, London, W.9. She is the first Negro teacher to go over in the program, now in its third year.

The teachers are sailing on the Marine Jumper for one-year teaching assignments. The program is sponsored by the United States Office of Education and the British Ministry of Education. Similar exchanges on a smaller scale were started after World War I.

The teachers generally pay their own passage but continue on the payroll of their home town. Thus Mrs. Dorothy D. Goertzen of Milwaukie, Ore., will be teaching at Gollifeelog Infants School, Penydarren, Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorganshire, Wales. But her salary will be paid by Milwaukie Grammar School back in Oregon.

The same goes for Miss Mary C. Roberts of Penydarren, who will teach in Milwaukie but be paid by the town in Wales.

Britons Get a Subsidy

To help them reach the lofty United States cost of living, the British teachers are receiving an extra $400 from their Government. They still will have to get along on a total of $2,000 for the year. Hence, small United States communities, where living costs are lower, have been chosen.

Reading, Pa., celebrating its bicentennial this year, is represented in the exchange. Teachers from Reading, Berks County, Pa., and Reading, Berks, England, are trading classes.

Since most of the United States teachers are leaving well before the beginning of the school year they will have time to visit their British counterparts before the latter head west. Many are trading homes as well as jobs, including two married couples in which both man and wife teach.

Three sisters from Battersea and Tooting, near London, will go to high schools in Boulder, Col.

The American teachers were guests yesterday at a tea at the English-Speaking Union, 19 East Fifty-fourth Street.

Dr. Paul Smith of the Office of Education in Washington and Mervyn Pritchard of the British Embassy briefed them on their work. At the briefing, in International House, across Riverside Drive from Grant's Tomb, Dr. Smith warned the teachers, all but a few of whom are women, that, as "ambassadors," they would be asked to speak before local clubs and groups. Those who went over in 1947 averaged over fifty talks during the year, he said.

To give them an idea of what to expect, he showed the teachers pictures of last year's group. He held aloft a photograph showing one teacher talking to Queen Elizabeth, but warned: "I wouldn't bank on that."

14 1948

Fargo Agriculture School

Firms Assist School To Get A Fresh Start

Journal-Guide

Norfolk, Va.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — (ANP) After a quarter of a century of struggling on its own, the Fargo Agriculture School for Negroes near Brinkley, has received a fresh start. Various firms donated equipment and material to help the school in its building program.

Chicago's Lehon Company donated a carload of asphalt shingles and siding to the school. These shingles will inclose two dormitories and the administration building.

Sat 7-24-48

A friend of the school encouraged the John Deere Tractor Company of Moline, Ill., to make available a tractor at low cost to aid the school's agriculture program.

A Darren lumberman, R. W. Fullerton, donated 10,000 feet of lumber to the school. Students in the carpentry department used this wood to build a church near the school.

Most students attend school a half day, and work the other half to earn their keep. Students who cannot pay attend free.

Warn County To Build Schools Or Face Courts

The Defender

Sat 1-31-48

ROCKVILLE, Md. (NNPA)-- Six ministers and businessmen last week charged the government of Montgomery county here with total disregard of the needs and desires" of the area's 8,400 colored citizens.

Appearing before the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners, the group demanded "democracy in its unadulterated form," and presented a six-point program to achieve that democracy. Equal schools were among top demands.

Chicago Ill.

WANT SEWAGE PLAN

Appointment of colored policemen, improvement of roads leading to colored communities, extension of water and sewage lines into colored settlements were high on the demand agenda.

Spokesman for the group was Romeo W. Horac, Washington real estate broker, whose home is in Silver Springs, Md. He declared that he and his companions spoke for the Citizens County of Mutuel Improvement for the county which has more than 1,000 members.

He said Negro schools in the county do not compare with white facilities, include no running water, inside toilets of modern equipment. Many such schools he said are located far from population centers.

PLAN COURT ACTION

Pointing out that the group was not asking integration, but equal education facilities, Horad warned that if steps toward equalization were not taken, legal action would follow and "we will attempt to send our children to the white schools."

Richard Carpenter, assistant school superintendent, promised two new schools. A $320,000 high school at Rockville and an elementary school at Laytonville.

The group also asked removal of "Jim Crow signs" on public toilets of the court house, an opportunity for wealthy colored persons to buy bonds to better facilities, and general improvement of many conditions termed "deplorable."

Injunction Denied In Kan. School Suit

Pittsburgh Courier

Sat 12-25-48

Pittsburgh Pa.

MERRIAM, Kan.—A petition for a temporary injunction to forbid segregation in the public schools here was denied by a lower Kansas court Friday. Holding that no grounds for an emergency existed, the court rejected the plea of Elisha Scott, NAACP attorney.

The NAACP charged that attendance in the new $90,000 South Park School in Merriam has been limited to white pupils since the school was opened. Negro children were relegated to a dilapidated two-room school, with outside sanitary facilities, no auditorium, and no gymnasium or kindergarten class.

This school was staffed by two teachers, neither of whom has a professional degree, and each of whom was assigned to teach four grades simultaneously.

Negro citizens of Merriam organized a chapter of the NAACP and instituted a mandamus action before the State Supreme Court, to require the new school to open its doors to Negro children on an equal basis with whites.

While action by the State Supreme Court is pending, parents have held private classes for their children at their own expense.

The new suit filed has asked a temporary injunction ordering South Park School to admit Negroes, pending decision of the higher court to act on the previously instituted action of mandamus.

Appointed To New York's School Board

The Argus

Fri 6-4-48

St. Louis, Mo.

NEW YORK (ANP) — Four members of the Board of Education are slated for appointment to the Board of Higher Education of the City of New York. One of the individuals has already been selected in the person of Rev. John M. Coleman, of Brooklyn. Rev. Coleman is the first Negro member of the Board of Education to be appointed by a New York mayor.

Appointees from the Bronx and Queens are not to be named by Mayor William O'Dwyer.

The selection of the Brooklyn board member, has satisfied the request of numerous citizens, who have been interested in seeing a Negro member of wide vision, appointed, for one of the vacancies.

"Separate But Equal" Termed Education Myth

Journal & Guide

Sat 1-24-48

Norfolk Va.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declared here last Tuesday that there is no such thing as "separate but equal" educational facilities.

Addressing the Capital Press Club the next day after the United States Supreme Court had ordered the state of Oklahoma to afford Mrs. Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher an opportunity for legal training within that state as quickly as it does white applicants, Mr. Marshall said equality cannot be limited and "substantial equality" is not equality.

He indicated that he will not be satisfied with the establishment of a separate law school in Oklahoma as a means of somplying with the mandate of the Supreme Court in the case of Mrs. Fisher, whom he repreesnted.

Even if equal facilities could be obtained, Mr. Marshall asserted, the education gained from the two schools would not be equal. He said he could not, however, conceive of two schools having equal facilities.

Sat 1-24-48

Paying tribute to local lawyers who bring suits, like the Oklahoma law scholo case, in the first instance, Mr. Marshall facetiously remarked that it was Amos T. Hall, a Tulsa attorney who also represented Mrs. Fisher, who had to go back to Oklahoma.

Mr. Marshall, however, indicated that if Mrs. Fisher is to be admitted to the University of Oklahoma law school, he would fly out there for the occasion.

SUIT FILED TO HALT 'DISCRIMINATION'

(The Associated Press)

Times Record

Fort Smith, Ark.; Dec. 12.—Ten Fort Smith Negroes have appealed to the US district court for action in halting alleged racial discrimination in the public schools here. The complaint said the question at issue in the suit was whether "policy, custom and usage" of the school board in maintaining "unsafe, unsanitary and inferior" schools for Negroes while maintaining, modern, sanitary, safe and superior schools for white children is a denial of the rights of the plaintiffs under the 14th amendment.

Mon 12-13-48

The suit charges that the Negro high school is unsafe and unsanitary and its facilities inadequate and unequal and school facilities do not include instruction in metal trades, auto mechanics and other skills of craft taught in white high schools.

Mon 12-13-48

Await O'Dwyer School Choice

Chicago Defender

Chicago Ill.

NEW YORK — Mayor William O'Dwyer has received additional suggestions as to his proposed appointment of a Negro member of the Board of Education, but took no action last week.

Sat 5-29-48

Among the many candidates suggested since it was learned the Mayor would appoint a Negro are Robert Justice of Manhattan and Dr. Lucien Brown of the Bronx. As the legislature recently increased the Queens and Bronx representation on the board by one person each, the Mayor has three posts to fill and will name the three simultaneously.

Therefore the delay on the Negro appointee is not considered indicative of any change in the Mayor's intentions.

Mayor's intentions. Political observers here feel certain however that no candidate from Manhattan will get the Board spot intended for a Negro, and that the likelihood is still that the Mayor will choose between Robert Elzy and Herbert Miller of Brooklyn as reported here last week.

Sat 5-29-48

Rap 3-Year Inaction on Harlem Schools

Daily Worker

By John Hudson Jones

N.Y. N.Y.

Ninety percent of Harlem's school children are retarded from one to four years in arithmetic, reading and other subjects, it was revealed at a conference of the Harlem Council on Education. The conference held Saturday at Memorial Baptist Church, was attended by over 100 parents, education, and community leaders among whom were Dr. Sophie Robinson of the New York School of Social Work; Dr. Ernest Osborne, Professor of Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, and Mrs. Agnes Doe, president of the Council.

Mon 12-13-48

Three years after the Harlem Project report of Harlem schools, it was pointed out, the conditions it exposed have become worse, and have gone ignored by school and city officials. The project was conducted during 1943-45 by the Board of Education, the New York Foundation, and the Hofheimer Foundation, at a cost of $250,000.

REVIEWS FINDINGS

Mon 12-13-48

Dr. Robison, who was research director for the Project, reviewed some of its findings. These included besides retardation, dilapidated buildings and facilities, insufficient teachers, overcrowded classes and bad health conditions.

The report recognized that the complete solution "lies in a change of the social and economic conditions of the community." However, Dr. Robison added, "something must be done now to alleviate educational conditions based on the possibilities of change within the school system," the responsibility for which rests with the "city and school administrations."

Other speakers were Mrs. Nellie Elskoe who gave a report for the Council; Rev. J. N. C. Davis, pastor of the Community Temple, and Clyde McKethan who was chairman.

Resolutions were sent to Mayor O'Dwyer, Andrew G. Clauson, president of the Board of Education, and Dr. William Jansen, Superintendent of Schools, and Governor Dewey.

"Conditions cry out for remedy," the resolutions declared. "How can our children, who face many forms of discrimination and disadvantages, as we parents do, be expected to meet the responsibilities of life with an underprivileged education?"

The City officials were asked to "announce a specific program to meet this critical situation; state exactly what is needed and how much it will cost, and outline a concrete plan on how to obtain the necessary finances, whether it be from the City, State or Federal Governments."

Mon 12-13-48

HIT DEWEY ALLOTMENT

The conference told Dewey that his "proposed increase of 40 millions in the state allotment for education will not begin to deal adequately with the accumulated neglect of our schools. At best this fund will only account for increased pupil registration."

The Council urged letter campaigns, petitions, and delegations to City and Board of Education officials.

Board Of Education

Louisville Defender

Louisville, Ky.

Sat 11-13-48

14

Again we have failed to put a Negro on the Board of Education. Several courageous capable citizens have sacrificed themselves and victory is still not ours.

G. W. Jackson campaigned intelligently and laboriously. According to reports, he reconciled all factions. Yet he did not win. Why? Not enough voting Negroes took the time to cast a ballot for him. Moreover, few whites supported him. Yet we say that it is generally agreed that we should have Negro representation on the board. Still we talk and fail to vote in sufficient numbers to elect one.

The fault actually is in our disinterestedness as a group. There is a feeling among some teachers that a Negro should not be a member of the board. Perhaps this explains why Negro members of the Teachers Union failed to recommend a Negro candidate to that body when asked and they later endorsed two white candidates.

The Defender feels that a Negro is needed on the board just as much as we needed salary equalization and married women teachers. Educators themselves should welcome board representatives as a means of bettering our schools.

Sat 11-13-48

Louisville citizens should consider it a reflection not to have a Negro on the board and voters should rise up in protest against this general apathy by voting a Negro on the board next time. Our concerted action in this regard is long overdue.

The Time For Decision Is Now

Journal & Guide

Sat 5-1-48

Norfolk Va

DEVELOPMENTS in the educational field in the past week were rapid and, perhaps, even confusing to some. But that they were historic is beyond question. It might even be said that this country is at the crossroads with respect to its provisions for education, particularly as they relate to Negro-Americans. The old pattern of almost unbelievable inequalities, discriminations, and denials is as dead as the dodo. Only the rash person would unhesitantly predict the exact future pattern.

The sole certainty is that equality is inevitable, and that those states which have beguiled themselves with the fiction of "equality in separateness" are in for a rude awakening; if, indeed, the awakening is not already at hand.

The dual system of education carries within itself the seeds of its own defeat. Maintained in the very region least able financially to underwrite highly expensive luxuries demanded by insistent prejudices, one of three results is unavoidable where the dual but equal system is achieved or attempted:

(A) Tragic shortcomings in the educational provisions for both racial groups;

(B) Sharp inequities in the provisions made, with the minority citizens getting the raw deal; or:

(C) Standard provisions for both groups under a dual system but at costs which would make the duality self-defeating.

That some decision must be made, and promptly, is obvious. The courts of this land, notably the Supreme Court, by their rulings in successive test cases have doomed the continuance of result B. They have held, notably in the GAINES and SIPUEL (FISHER) cases that equal public education must (1) be provided all citizens equally, (2) within the boundaries of each state, and (3) now, at once, forthwith, and without further delay.

Audit Report Shows Dire Need of Additional Funds

The Black Dispatch - Oklahoma City Oklahoma, Oklahoma

MAJORITY GROUP PROMISES AID TO PASSAGE

Upon call of the legislative committee of the Oklahoma Association of Negro Teachers, representatives from twenty-nine counties met at Douglass high school, Oklahoma City, Saturday and drafted plans to bring about the passage of State Question No. 327, providing an additional mill, unrestricted, for sunpport of the separate schools of the state of Oklahoma. The passage of this proposed constitutional amendment on July 6 will go far toward providing adequate finance to support separate schools.

Sat 5-15-48

Need for passage of the amendment providing an additional unrestricted one-mill was compellingly revealed in a recent audit by a specialist in the accounting field, hired by the Oklahoma Association of Negro Teachers. The OANT legislative committee, through its secretary, paid costs of the audit reportedly exceeding one hundred dollars.

Sat 5-15-48

Outstanding leaders, white and black, representing many of the most influential and active civic and educational organizations of the state, have endorsed the program outlined to provide a major portion of much needed funds for separate schools.

In the Saturday meeting of the state-wide group who personally ~~paid their expenses to the~~ session at Douglass high school, Mr. Ferman ~~Phillips, manager~~ of the Oklahoma Education Association, spoke to the representatives and gave his support to the effort to be undertaken for passage of the amendment in the coming election. Also, Mrs. Carl Stewart, prominent state club woman and wife of the Daily Oklahoman editor, spoke and brought assurance to the Negro educational leaders that many outstanding civic organizations of the majority group have endorsed the OANT legislative amendment and will actively support passage of the bill.

Rev. E. W. Perry, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist church, Oklahoma City, and national leader of the faith, expressed full cooperation to passage of the amendment and added that letters would be mailed from his office to leading ministers of the state to urge their support in gaining community registration and final vote for the amendment.

Dr. G. L. Harrison, Langston university president, offered the opportunity of two summer school assembly talks for passage of the amendment and Mr. Ira D. Hall promised active support in his state visits as inspector in the state department of education.

Counties represented at Saturday's assembly were: Creek, Comanche, Blaine, Caddo, Garfield, Greer, Grady, Garvin, Hughes, Jefferson, Kay, Kingfisher, Lincoln, Logan, Love, McClain, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Pottowatomie, Payne, Pittsburgh, Pontotoc, Osage, Seminole, Tillmon, Tulsa, Jackson and Carter.

Members Give No Definite Promises About Problems

Daily World Wed 10-13-48

(14)

Atlanta Ga.

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

"Provide our children with adequate educational facilities"? was the alarmful cry that reverberated in the assembly room of the Atlanta Board of Education Tuesday as large numbers of parents assembled to air their grievances on inadequate educational facilities provided Negro youngsters by the Atlanta Board of Education..

Perhaps one of the most stirring assemblies faced by the board, Negro parents and leaders registered their complaints with commendable diplomacy, despite charges from board members that such action was most "embarrassing to them."

For some unexplained reason, the board did not conduct its regular quorum; although as late as Monday evening reports from its headquarters announced that the regular meeting would be held. Those members present, however, extended the Negro delegation a cordial reception.

INADEQUACIES CITED

Appearing as one of the leading spokesman for the group, Prof. Samuel W. Williams, of Morehouse College, outlined both general and specific inadequacies confronting Negro pupils of the city. He recapitulated on complaints embodied in a petition presented to the board at a previous meeting.

"Now what does the Atlanta Board of Education propose to do about these inadequacies," he asked pointedly. "Its unChristian and unAmerican."

Board Member D. F. McClatchy said he could give no definite answer other than the board was doing all it could to alleviate the problems.

Attempts by Prof. Williams to get a definite commitment from Mr. McClatchy as to when his queries could be answered were fruitless. His questions could only be answered by the board, Mr. McClatchy asserted.

Wed. 10-13-48

BOARD "WANTS TIME"

The conference rolled along smoothly with little display of outward emotionalism until Mr. McClatchy jumped to his feet and with outstretched hands exclaimed: ,

"Give us a chance. The board is doing all it can. We are trying to bring about conditions where every child can attend school on a single session."

When Mr. McClatchy said that the present board had done more for Negro education in the past four years than had been done in the previous 75 years, Attorney S. S. Robinson took exception, asking why had there been an increased disparity in white and Negro per pupil expenditure the past four years as pointed out by a report of the Atlanta Urban League. The disparity was established from the board's own records, the attorney declared.

Mr. McClatchy urged that Negroes forget racial comparisons.

WHITE SCHOOL DISCUSSED

A lengthy discussion on the Lula Kingsberry school was evoked when Prof. Williams told of the steady decrease of white enrollees at the school and the steady influx of Negroes into the community surrounding it.

Miss Ira Jarrell, Superintendent, said a study was being made at the school to determine whether it would remain for whites or be turned over to Negroes.

It was Prof. Barnett Smith, of Spelman college, who focused attention on the Bush Mountain school which has no running water facilities and other inadequacies. That, too, is being considered, Miss Jarrell said. Reliable reports claim that the matter had been before the board for over a year.

IRA STREET SCHOOL

Mr. Smith asked why hadn't the Ira Street school been turned over to Negroes as proposed when the bond issue passed. Miss Jarrell claimed it was beyond repair. When Mr. Smith pointed out the youngsters in the neighborhood are faced with countless hazards in attending another school, Miss Jarrel replied that it was better for the children to cross the railroad tracks than be crowded into a delapidated structure.

Wed 10-13-48

Mr. Smith said the board hadn't met the spirit of the law on separate but equal facilities for the two races.

A mother of nine children told with bewelled eyes of the perplexities she faces every day in getting her children off to school. With these double and triple sessions going on, it keeps me busy all day sending them to school, she complained.

Mrs. Vernon C. Smith spoke with disdain on corrective measures taken at the Wesley Avenue School when the boards' attention was called to the many shattered window panes. Instead of the panes being replaced, the windows were boarded up, she disclosed. The artificial lighting is ruining the children's eyes, she added. Mrs. Smith represented the Health Education Department of the YWCA.

Wed. 10-13-48

The delegation made known that relief would be sought in Federal court if some appreciable degree of alleviation was not forthcoming.

"The One Best Way"

Time

Last week the first major cracks appeared in the wall of Jim Crow education:

¶ Delaware, one of 17 states with Jim Crow laws, announced that it would admit Negro students to the University of Delaware to any course not offered by the Delaware State College for Negroes. The trustees said they had taken the hint from the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in the Ada Sipuel case (TIME, Jan. 19).

¶ The University of Maryland, which quietly admitted its first Negro to the law school 13 years ago, and has already graduated four, now has 23 Negro law students. Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, a private school under no legal compulsion to admit Negroes, has also admitted "a few" Negroes into graduate work.

¶ The University of Arkansas, which recently refused to admit a Negro law student, said that it would reconsider if he re-applied. He could use the law library and study under the regular faculty—but in a separate classroom. Negro undergraduates, however, will still be refused.

¶ Oklahoma, which had jerry-built a law school for Negroes following the Sipuel decision, again refused to admit Ada Sipuel* to the regular University of Oklahoma law school. But when seven more qualified Negroes applied for Oklahoma graduate schools, a state regent urged that Negro graduates be admitted to Oklahoma—just to save the state money.

¶ In Missouri, where a "separate but equal" law school has had its longest test, the powerful St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* pronounced it a "mistake." Said the *P-D*: it costs only $228 a year to educate each white law student at the University of Missouri. But the state must pay $807 for each law student in the separate school—and the 44 Negroes still don't get a really equal education. Admitting Negroes to University of Missouri graduate schools, said the *P-D*, was "the one best way" to correct an "expensive error." 2-9-48

* Now Mrs. Warren Fisher, bride of a graduate of Oklahoma's Langston University for Negroes.

Lady Astor Declares Filth In U. S. Shocking

The Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.
Fri 3-26-48

Special to The New York Times and The Courier-Journal.

Houston, March 25.—Lady Nancy Astor, Virginia-born former member of the British Parliament, said here today that "The filth Americans are living in is shocking."

Stopping off here en route east from Los Angeles, the former Nancy Witcher Langhorne asked reporters why America has so many tin cans and filthy papers lying around. She said she was speaking as an American-born lover of the beauties of America.

Lady Astor said she was perturbed by the civil-liberties fight in America. She said she advocated educating Negroes "because the country cannot afford to have ignorance and poverty." 3-26-48

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GAINS BY TEACHERS BOLSTER EDUCATION

Improved Status and College and Elementary Enrollment Rises Reported for '47

New York, N.Y.

CHICAGO, May 9—Enrollment increases in elementary schools and colleges, and attempts to improve the economic status of teachers were among the outstanding developments in education in the United States last year, according to the Encyclopedia Britannica's Book of the Year. Mon

Other important educational developments in 1947 noted in the year book, which is to be issued soon, were a rising interest in international educational cooperation, especially in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); attempts to get Federal aid for education, and "the growing controversy on the place of religion in public elucation." 5-13-48

The year book's report, prepared by Dr. William W. Brickman, instructor in the history of philosophy of education at New York University, recalled the series of teachers' strikes for higher salaries last year, and noted that New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas enacted laws prohibiting walkouts by teachers and civil servants.

It declared that the financial status of teachers was "so effectively publicized in the newspapers and other media of communication that public opinion was created in behalf of salary increases and other improvements."

Times Articles Mentioned

The year book declared that a series of twelve articles in THE NEW YORK TIMES, Feb. 10-21, 1947, by Benjamin Fine, was "one of the outstanding factors in directing attention to the teacher situation." These articles were reprinted in a brochure, "The Crisis in American Education" and later were expanded into a book, "Our Children Are Cheated." Mon

Among the facts revealed in The Times survey were that one teacher in seven had an emergency or sub-standard certificate; since 1940, about 350,000 left the profession; there were 70,000 teaching vacancies; the average salary of teachers was $37 a week, with 200,000 being paid less than $25 and that more than half the country's teachers were not protected by tenure rights. 5-13-48

"The various state legislatures," the Britannica Book of the Year said, "began voting pay increases as early as January. By the end of June, at least three-fourths of the legislatures had appropriated emergency funds toward raising minimum salaries or granting cost-of-living bonuses. THE NEW YORK TIMES estimated on Dec. 30 that the average teacher's salary for 1947-48 would exceed that of the previous year by $400."

Quoting Prof. Harold F. Clark of Teachers College, Columbia University, the year book said, however, that teachers would not be as well off as previously because of the higher cost of living.

Single Salary Schedule Gains

"Another trend in the teacher crisis," the report stated, "was the growing sentiment to adopt a single salary schedule for elementary and high school teachers. The American Conference of Teacher Examiners expressed unanimous satisfaction in October 'at the increasing number of single salary schedules being adopted throughout the United States' and predicted that they 'will do much to alleviate the teacher shortages in the elementary field and will encourage more competent candidates to prepare for teaching in the elementary schools.'"

Included in improvements in teachers' conditions in 1947 were the following: More than half the states enacted new or liberalized retirement plans; Maryland and Arkansas reduced class loads to thirty pupils; Illinois and Virginia eliminated marriage as a cause for dismissing a woman teacher; South Carolina provided legal redress for teachers in cases of salary discrimination, and Connecticut legislated against racial and religious bias in the employment of teachers. The Times

Among other reforms achieved were better provisions for sick leave, tenure protection and the discontinuance by some communities of restrictions on teachers' private lives, according to the year book. It continued:

"All in all, however, the situation was still unsatisfactory. The Citizens Federal Committee on Education, a group formed under the auspices of the (United States) Office of Education, reported in October that 'the conditions under which teachers work and live still leave much to be desired' in many parts of the country and that 'many communities do not let their teachers live like normal human beings.'" New York, N.Y.

College Enrollment up 12½%

5-10-48

Enrollment last fall in 1,753 collegiate institutions was 2,338,226, or 12.5 per cent higher than in 1946, the year book said, quoting figures from the Office of Education. It declared that to some observers it appeared that the war-veteran attendance of 1,149,993 "represented a peak, or a plateau at least." Mon 5-10-48

Proof of this, the year book said, was found "in the slowing up of veteran registration in comparison with non-veteran increases and in the decided decrease in the number of veterans entering as freshmen." The Times

A warning to college administrators of possible future trends was seen by the report in occasional decreases in enrollment. Surveys, it said, indicated that rising tuition and other college expenses, as well as the persistent housing shortage, were responsible for discouraging students from going to college.

"According to a NEW YORK TIMES survey in September," the year book said, "the average cost in 400 colleges rose 37 per cent over that of 1940-41. The cause of democracy in higher education was seen injured by the withdrawal of students of moderate means." New York, N.Y.

LAG IN NEGROES' EDUCATION HELD BUSINESS ERROR

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.

Large Economic Factor Overlooked, Unit Told

Mon. 6-28-48

A potential vast production force and market are being overlooked, if not ignored, by American business in allowing Negro educational facilities to lag, Dr. Rufus E. Clement, Negro president of Atlanta university, yesterday told leaders in the United Negro College Fund campaign.

Sought locally is $100,000, toward a national fund of $1,400,000. Dr. Clement's views were included in a letter read at a meeting in the Corpus Christi center at 4622 South Park way, at which James E. Stamps, regional manager of the federal security agency, also spoke. The drive was opened thruout the country on June 8.

Hits At Restrictions

"Lack of Negro education in the south has a direct impact on the Negro populations of such cities in the north as Chicago," Dr. Clement wrote. "The poorly educated Negro who migrates from the south is likely to develop a chip on his shoulder when he finds his progress is blocked by his ignorance.

"He may also quickly become an economic burden in such cities as Chicago, with large Negro populations. This is because so few avenues and opportunities for employment and self-support are open to him. 6-28-48

"Race tensions thrive on the restricted educational opportunities for southern Negroes. When earning power is limited or foreshortened by lack of education, whole populations suffer. Mon

Notes Production Opportunities

"A potential great producing force, as well as a large possible market for goods, is thus being ignored. Business must not forget that Negroes like to dress well, that they crave good food, some of the luxuries, decent ways of living. They need everything any living being needs—clothing, shoes, food, automobiles—and are only stopped from adding their buying power to all the other purchasing power of a community by the fact they so often can't, even if ever so willing to work for it, obtain the money to spend for these things. Daily Tribune

"A large percentage of Chicago's Negro population originated in the south, going to Chicago to work long before and during the war. Chicago, Ill.

"Negro doctors are tremendously in demand. Negro medical schools are now turning out only 150 doctors a year, whereas at least 220 Negro physicians die each year. Negro colleges must expand their medical teaching facilities."

Negro Schools

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: Hats off to Mr. Chester E. Martin! I think he is absolutely right. Why help the Negro, generally speaking, if he doesn't help himself?

Right here in this section of Georgia we have five Negro schools within a five-mile radius. Do they go to these schools? The answer is NO. And if you think this is misrepresenting it come around next Fall and see what percent of the roll is present. And I don't mean only while they're working on the farm, but any time. I'm sure you'd say, "Well, I'm surprised!"

Of course, the schools are small wooden structures, but if you want to learn does that matter?

It would also be surprising to know how few of these Negroes pay taxes to help support these schools. In this neighborhood it would probably run about one-half of one percent.

So you see it's quite a problem, and maybe Mississippi has something there when they say—"Send them to the States that know the answer to the problem," for they seem to be more worried than we, and much, much more so than the Negro they're worrying about. Remember, "God helps those who help themselves."

Greenville. A READER.

7-2-48

Educational Barriers Found Styming Training Of Technicians

Journal-Guide

Norfolk, Va. Sat. 7-24-48

Enrollment Of Students For Next Ten Years Must Be Stepped To 4,600,000

Special to Journal and Guide

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — By 1960 there will be in this nation a shortage in the medical field of 3,000 doctors alone, if present barriers to education are not removed. Dr. Aaron J. Brumbaugh, of Washington, D. C., vice president of the American Council Education, told the American Missionary Association Institute of Race Relations now in session at Fisk University.

Unless these barriers fall, serious shortages in trained technical personnel face the nation within the next ten years, Dr. Brumbaugh said.

Journal

Dr. Brumbaugh, who served as a member of the President's Commission on Higher Education, said that the three most serious barriers to education in the United States were finance, limitations of physical facilities, and "inequalities due to racial and religious discrimination."

Norfolk Va.

The speaker said that in order to meet the demanding needs which will exist in 1960 it will be necessary to double the number of students now enrolled in institutions of higher education.

This means, according to Dr. Brumbaugh, that the 2,400,000 students enrolled during the peak year of 1947 will have to be stepped up to 4,600,000 by 1960.

Emphasizing the vast potential of talent that has not yet been used, Dr. Brumbaugh said that at the beginning of the war the nation could have replaced every student presently enrolled in college with another one of equal capacity.

FINDINGS OF COMMISSION

These statements were based upon findings of the commission on higher education which, according to Dr. Brumbaugh, recommended the abolition of discrimination in education. "In this respect," the speaker pointed out, "the thinking of the commission went so far as to approve of legislation designed to prevent inequities. Dr. Brumbaugh also said that the commission adopted a strong recommendation against segregated education.

"The strong proposal against racial segregation," the speaker added, "would logically mean that the commission is opposed to the establishment of regional schools on a racially-segregated basis primarily as a means of avoiding the issue."

The commission proposed, according to Dr. Brumbaugh, federal funds to be used in the expansion of the educational services needed. A system of free public education for two years beyond the high school level, with the addition of federally provided funds for scholarships, fellowships, and research for exceptional students at the college and graduate levels, was also recommended to President Truman by the commission.

"The government is already a partner to private institutions in higher education. Although many persons seem to be afraid of increased federal assistance, they apparently forget the fact that the government is now spending in excess of seven hundred million dollars for higher education," Dr. Brumbaugh asserted.

He said that this was the basic question involved in cases dealing with the admission of Negroes to the universities of Texas and Oklahoma. Pointing out that not a single southern state had even approximated equal educational provisions, he emphasized that legal action, or the threat of such action, had largely been responsible for the gains made during the last 15 years.

As an indication of the extent of discrepancy of expenditures for higher education between Negroes and whites, Dr. Jenkins explained that in 1943, the per capita expenditure for higher education for whites was more than two and a half dollars, and only 56 cents for Negroes. During this year, according to Dr. Jenkins, sixteen million dollars would have been required to equalize educational opportunities between Negro and white students.

Sat.

REGIONAL PLAN

Dr. Edwin R. Embree, Chicago, Ill., president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and newly appointed director of "Stettinius Associates" a foundation for the development of Liberian Human Resources, spoke out against what he termed an attitude of commitment to the plan of segregated regional schools for Negroes. He called this attitude a form of "connivance on the part of those who have a vested interest in segregation" toward the establishment of national segregation policy.

7-24-48

The basic issue is the question of state versus inter-state policy, and the U. S. Supreme Court has committed itself as against segregation on the inter-state principle." said Mr. Embree. He asserted that those who were in agreement with the regional school idea were in effect "conniving a national interstate principle on segregated education where none had existed before."

CONTACT REDUCES PREJUDICE

Scientific evidence that friendship and contact associations prevent the development of racial and religious prejudices was presented to the institute by Dr. Samuel Flowerman, New York City, director of research for the American Jewish Committee.

In reporting findings for a recent study in a border state city, Dr. Flowerman said that three-fourths of the persons who were found to be most anti-Semitic ahd never had contacts with Jews; in addition, persons with any type of contact at all were found to be generally less prejudiced. People who had known Jews since childhood had lived with them in the same neighborhood or block, and had worked on the same job with them, were found to possess only a negligible degree of prejudice, according to Flowerman.

Negro Education Advances

The Commercial Appeal

Leaders in the field are fully agreed that educational opportunities for negroes in Tennessee have increased apace with those for white students. The advances have been comprehensive, ranging from the first grade to the college and university level. Quality of equipment and instruction have gone hand in hand.

While the amount of money spent on an educational institution is not complete assurance of its value in service, it certainly does indicate the attitude of a state's people. The A. & I. State College in Nashville is to the negroes what the University of Tennessee is to the whites. In the school years of 1941-42 and 1942-43 the state appropriated $110,000 a year for the college. The amount grew to $220,000 annually for the next two years.

Sun. 8-22-48

Memphis Tenn.

In the college years of 1945-46 and 1946-47 the state appropriation for A. & I. was $285,833 a year. When the receipts from the sales tax permitted larger expenditures for schools, the college got an annual total of $542,500 in appropriations and receipts that could be spent. It is an interesting measure of the expansions that have been made and which are in prospect for the college.

Comparable advances have been made in the funds available for negro high and elementary schools. Many school buses for negro use have been purchased. Records kept in Nashville show that the counties are spending a fair share of their returns from the sales tax to improve facilities for negro education.

Realizing that no school is any better than its teachers, the state administration has made notable strides forward in the matter of pay for negro teachers. It is an interesting fact that the state had more fully qualified negro teachers on a percentage basis than it did among the whites in some instances. In any event, the negro teacher has been paid according to the measure of experience and qualification involved.

The last few years in Tennessee have also seen vocational opportunities, training for children who cannot leave home, and the like, extended to negroes. Tennessee is the site of Fisk University and Meharry Medical College for negroes, both highly accredited institutions in their field. The state has assisted negro students in medicine, dentistry and nursing at Meharry. It is noteworthy that officials of both privately-endowed and state colleges and universities aid in planning programs and in expanding plant at the negro schools.

Sun. 8-22-48

The location of Fisk, Meharry and A. & I. in Nashville and within short distances of one another, plus the feeling of co-operation that exists, means one of the finest centers for negro educational training anywhere. Tennessee has a program for assisting negro students who can qualify for specialized training of a nature that must be sought outside the state. The state is also a leader in the move to establish and maintain regional schools for Southern students.

All in all, the program is one of which Tennessee may be justly proud and which other states may well study and copy.

Mrs. Robinson Says Poll-Tax States Rate Lowest in Education, Health

(14)

Afro American

Sat 4-3-48

WASHINGTON

After Mrs. Dorothy Robinson, representing the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, had testified before the Senate Rules and Administration Committee that poll-tax States were at the bottom of the list in education, health and public welfare activities, Sen. John Stennis questioned her to show that Mississippi is not so bad.

Sat 4-3-48

"Do you know that Mississippi spends the largest percentage of its tax dollar on education of any of the States?" the Mississippi congressman asked. x

The witness did not know that, although that was true, Mississippi's revenues are so low that its educational system is still the poorest in the nation, and there are more illiterates in that State than any other.

Scores Point

But she scored a point by telling him that his State discriminates in spending its educational funds.

Sat 4-3-48

"Isn't it true that in a number of those counties down there they have county health units and all the people are treated exactly alike?" Senator Stennis persisted. Mrs. Robinson said she did not know that all people were treated alike.

Trying to show that paternalistic relationship exists among some Southern colored and white persons, Senator Stennis queried, "Do you go out among your colored neighbors in time of sickness and sorrow?" he asked. "I have."

The Old Best 'Friend' Tripe

"Some of my dearest friends are colored people," Mrs. Robinson replied. "I do whatever I can." "I go to their funerals," Senator Stennis remarked. "Do you?" "I have been many times," Mrs. Robinson answered.

Sat 4-3-48

"I am not a man of means at all, but I have loaned colored people money to go to school. Do you know about that side of things?" Senator Stennis asked.

Rep. George H. Bender (Rep., Ohio), author of the anti-poll tax bill which passed the House and which the Republican - controlled Senate committee will report, testified last Wednesday that imposition of the poll tax had resulted in the disfranchisement of the great majority of people, white and colored alike, in the poll-tax States.

Urban League Favors School Bond Proposal

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

"Active support by all citizens of Fulton County in behalf of securing a favorable vote on the bond issue is clearly warranted," declared the Atlanta Urban League in a recent release to the Metropolitan Atlanta Parents Council.

Sun. 12-19-48

The occasion for the declaration was in response to inquiries about the influence of the proposed $5,000,000 bond issue upon school facilities for Negro children in Fulton County.

The proposed $5,000,000 bond issue is slated to be voted upon in a special election on January 18, 1949. It is stipulated that $1,530,000 of this amount will be allocated for construction of Negro schools.

Sun. 12-19-48

SURVEY CONDUCTED

The League in giving support to the proposal based its opinion on findings resulting from a study it conducted to discover the needs for Negro schooling in light of the separate but equal proviso.

According to the League, the study showed that while there is a differential between the per-pupil expenditure by race, there has been a progressive trend toward bridging the gap since the 1946-47 school year.

The League said:

"A decrease in the differential in per-pupil investment by race would indicate conscientious intentions to consistently apply in practice the principles that:

" '1. No less than the pro-rata share of the common school fund should be spent for the education of any child served by that school system; and

" '2. No child should have increased educational opportunities at the expense of any other child served by the public school system.' "

Substantiating its claim, the League related that the following trend was noticeable in per-pupil investment in school plants for the races:

	WHITE	NEGRO
1946-47:	$282.86	$60.85
1947-48:	$343.19	$175.76

The above figures were established from the Fulton County Board of Education's annual reports to the State Education Board, it was said.

"HOPEFUL, INTERESTING TREND."

"These figures reveal an interesting and hopeful trend," the League pointed out. "In 1946-47 there was $4.65 invested per white pupil for each $1 invested per Negro child and in 1947-48 the differential had been reduced to $1.90 per white for every $1 invested per Negro child."

Reporting that Negro students comprise 16.7 percent of the total county enrollment, the League found that the bond issue which allocates $1,530,000 for Negro schools appears to be a means to further equalization of plant facilities when measured by per-pupil investment in school plants.

Grand Jury Scores Plight Of Fulton County School System

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Tues. 5-4-48

Unprogressive Educators Cited For Incompetency

Tues. 5-4-48

A gloomy picture of conditions in Fulton County's Negro schools was painted by the education committee of the April-May Grand Jury which severely criticized the Fulton County Board of Education.

This report came after a full-scale investigation of the county school system and visits to 31 schools where sanitation, personnel, unqualified teachers and crowded classrooms aroused the ire of the jurors.

The Committee cited the fact that at the Springfield Negro school one teacher had 64 pupils in the second and third grades in one room. A third grade at Bolton School was found to have 43 pupils in one room.

Unsanitary conditions at the Springfield school came in for further condemnation as the report showed the drinking fountain had been stopped up all this session and the urinal in the boys privy is stopped up and running all over the floor.

Consolidation of several small Negro schools was urged by the Grand Jury which insisted that Fulton County begin construction of proper educational plants for Negro pupils.

Low wages in Fulton schools were attacked. The report stated that the failure to pay a standard wage to a standard trained teacher we lay squarely at the door of members of the Board of Education.

Three high schools and five additional elementary schools will be needed according to the report by 1950-51.

Tues. 5-4-48

Unsuitable playground space was found at East Point colored school, Union City, and Cedar Grove.

The Grand Jury cited the employment of teachers lacking the proper qualifications and blamed the condition on the low salary schedule. They pointed out new, qualified teachers are going to other school systems largely out of Georgia.

Heard County's Progress

The Constitution
Sat. 7-31-48
Atlanta, Ga.

Editor Constitution: I have read with interest your editorial of July 26, [illegible] ress. I [illegible] have to speak up for [illegible] home county, Heard. We have a smart, progressive school superintendent, N. A. Rogers. He is a home boy that has made a fine record for himself and his county at home. Of course he has the active co-operation of of the county school board.

As for the Negroes, we have four school busses for the colored children as well as having a high school for them. We expect no racial trouble, for we try to keep them satisfied by providing facilities to meet their needs.

We've just completed a modern county hospital, built largely by public subscription. The Negroes contributed funds and have wards for colored people. We may be called a backwoods county, but I don't think anyone that knows conditions as they really are would call us nonprogressive, even though there's not a railroad in Heard County. It is composed largely of rural people—people who treat their fellow man as they would like to be treated under the same circumstances. I'm proud of my home county, especially her people.

Atlanta Matching White Schools With Equal Facilities for Negroes

The Constitution
Atlanta, Ga.
Mon. 8-9-48

The City of Atlanta rapidly is creating educational opportunities for its Negro children equal to those provided for its white youth.

Proof of this is contained in a four-year progress report released yesterday showing the City not only is in the midst of a $4,139,383 construction program for Negro schools, but is now spending almost twice as much on Negro teacher salaries than was expended in 1943-44.

In releasing the report, Miss Ira Jarrell, Superintendent of City Schools, pointed out that 147 additional teachers for Negro schools have been employed in the past four years, and that new kindergartens, elementary schools and vocational schools have been provided for Negroes.

Cafeteria and library facilities have been expanded in the Negro school system, curricular improvements have been made, and the athletic program enhanced.

A summary of the City's construction program for Negro schools, including entire new units, new classrooms, auditoriums, cafeterias, laboratories equipment and renovation, shows $1,588,708 worth of work currently under way. Approved projects on which bids will be received total $637,100, and bids will be advertised for other approved projects totalling $838,525. Additional projects to be considered by the Board of Education total $1,075,050. All of this adds up to $4,139,838, either actually under way or on the planning boards.

Mon. 8-9-48

On teacher salaries, Miss Jarrell's report said:

"The amount of money which the Atlanta Board of Education pays Negro teachers has been increased 86 percent (an increase of $390,655.47—almost double that before 1944). During the school year ending June, 1943, the Board paid $452,414.86 for salaries, as compared to $843,070.33 in June, 1948.

Mon. 8-9-48

"All teachers in the Atlanta School System are on the same salary schedule."

Other highlights among 20 points of progress listed by Miss Jarrell's report:

KINDERGARTEN — First Negro kindergarten established in 1944-45 at Ware Elementary School, with others added in as many schools as space permits, totaling four now, with one planned for each Negro elementary school.

TEACHER LOAD — Now decreased to 30.9 pupils per period per teacher, in accordance with requirements of Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. Number of teachers on double session also decreased.

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS Bond program plans include six new elementary schools. Two of these already have been transferred from white to Negro students (former Opportunity and Davis Street Schools), with plans under way for construction of two new ones.

Wed. 8-9-48

NEW VOCATIONAL SCHOOL Atlanta and Fulton County Boards of Education jointly operate new George Washington Carver Vocational School. During the first school year, 1947-48, 2,430 boys and girls, youth and adults received either full time, part time or evening instruction in fields of distributive education, trades and industry, commercial, homemaking and agriculture. Plant, equipment, facilities and curriculum second to none in the South for white or Negro.

The Constitution

CAFETERIA FACILITIES — Now three times that of 1944, but still limited because of lack of space in some Negro as well as white schools.

LIBRARY FACILITIES — Program and book volumes greatly increased and value of volumes more than doubled, from $11,915 in 1944 to $23,221 in 1948.

VISITING TEACHERS — As compared to one truant officer in 1944, there are now 11 visiting teachers who have helped decrease illegal absences, maladjustments, early withdrawals, etc. (There are only five white visiting teachers.)

NIGHT SCHOOL—Program intensified and expanded, with 2,056 students enrolled in 1948, compared to only 1,972 in 1944.

SUMMER SCHOOL — Operated on same basis as for white students.

NURSES AND HEALTH—Program "second to none in the City," with three registered nurses at Washington High and one at Howard High, and eight City health nurses in the elementary schools. Physical examinations provided, health and hygiene courses taught, and a West Side Health Center operated for Negro children.

ATHLETICS—"Big Five" Conference formed in 1947-48. Lights installed at Washington High stadium; coaches employed and paid at same rate as white coaches; equipment issued to Washington and Howard last year amounted to $5,049 and $3,186, respectively, as compared to average of $5,636 for white schools. New gymnasium planned for Howard.

Other items listed included institution of a counseling program, professional workshop, establishment of clerical positions, in-service-training for teachers, a daily physical training program, and well organized and established bands at all Negro high schools.

Parents Expose New Disparity In Educational Expenditures

Atlanta Daily World

14

Wed. 12-8-48

In answer to a public announcement by the Atlanta Board of Education that "it has no policy for Negro schools separate or different from that for white schools," the Atlanta Parents Council for Better Public Schools in a release Tuesday urged the Board to use its increased support to decrease existing inequalities instead of increasing them.

Atlanta Georgia

Signed by Mrs. E. L. Dixon, chairman of the protesting organization, the release gave cognizance of the Board's efforts toward eliminating overcrowdedness at the high school level but claimed that "congestion in elementary schools steadily increases."

In pointing out the Board's inconsistency to what it preaches, the release focused attention to the following disparity:

DISCRIMINATION INCREASES

"The Board of Education finds it necessary because of rising costs, to authorize an expenditure of $1,126,409 or 26 per cent more than was allocated in bond funds for the white school projects which are under way. It would therefore seem reasonable to expect an equal per cent of increase to be necessary in the authorized cost of construction of Negro school projects. It is surprising to note, however that the authorized cost for construction of the Negro school projects is ONE PER CENT LESS than was allocated for these projects in the bond program."

Substantiating its claim, the protesting organization in a racial comparative analysis of contracts let for projects found that for whites the Board is expending $1,126,409 more than was approved in the 1946 bond issue. On the other hand, contracts let for Negro projects is $20,178 less than the amount approved in the 1946 approved bond issue. As such, discrimination in unit investment cost continues to increase alarmingly in favor of whites, the organization avers.

EXPECT SAME

In reference to the Board's denial of discrimination, the parents argued:

Wed 12-8-48

"It is therefore reasonable to expect the same rate of progress in the authorization for construction of Negro schools designated in the bond program, as is evident in the authorization of other school projects. It is also reasonable to expect the use of additional funds to meet increased building costs in the same proportion for all schools. The failure of the Board of Education to apply in practice its "frequently announced policy of treating all school children alike." means that the existing racial differentials in unit costs for investment in school plants will steadily increase."

In citing other examples of racial disparity, the organization outlined the following:

1. Ninety per cent of Negro elementary students attend school only two or three hours each day because of double or triple sessions.

2. The majority of students are required to walk long distances and cross hazardous intersections.

3. The absence of running water facilities and flush toilets at the Bush Mountain and Armour schools is a menance to the students' health

Wed 12-8-48

PRACTICE PREACHMENTS

In summary complaint, the parents said "the social consequences of prevailing inequalities in Atlanta public schools have been all too evident, too long. The development of consistency between stated administrative policy and administrative practice would tend to sustain and improve American democracy."

Negroes Succeed in Georgia

Savannah Morning News

Realistic Teaching of Negro Farm Children In Greene County Public Schools — Principal Lizzie Thompson Merritt of White Plains Junior High School. Superintendent H. T. Corry Advocates Common Sense In Education. Realism In Teacher-Education.

Savannah, Ga.

11-21-48

BY BENJAMIN F. HUBERT

In the spring of 1948 Superintendent Floyd T. Corry of the Green county school system asked me to serve as adviser and consultant, in an effort being made to get the schools for colored people, on a realistic, down-to-earth program. It has been a great privilege and pleasure to serve my own people, and the educational authorities, here near my native home. We have been happy to assist in even a minor capacity, in attacking the common problem of building on the farms, a clearer and fuller appreciation of the opportunities, for black folks, to earn for themselves, a more comfortable living and a better and more wholesome life, right where they are, in Greene county.

Sun

This gave me an opportunity to study the superintendent and familiarize myself with his vision of the possibilities for all the people in Greene county. When an individual has occasion to go, on business, to the Floyd Corry home, regardless of what member of the family who meets him, at the door, he can not escape the fact that here is the spirit of superior courtesy, culture and refinement in this home. I have had occasion, in speaking to colored audiences, to call attention to this, what I term the best evidence of worthwhile realism in a program of education. It is what happens at home! Real common-sense education, carries over into everyday life.

A Rational Program

The teachers of the county helped to think out and plan their own re-directed 12-year school program. They were assisted by the visiting teacher, R. G. Bryan. It was my job to serve as adviser and consultant. We had several meetings before the program was submitted to the superintendent and Board of Education for final approval. The ministers were invited to have a part in developing the curriculum.

Principal Thompson Merritt of the White Plains Junior High School. immediately urged and insisted that I come to White Plains to make my start.

11-21-48

On Thursday evening, November 4, I was privileged to meet a combined group of parents, students and children, in the auditorium of the school. In our talk, I tried to find out just what the people had that they could depend on for a living in this community. I think it was a revelation to all of the people present, to have it revealed that there were practically no gardens. This meant that the children were not getting green vegetables every day. They had none to sell or exchange. The few hens in the community had gone on a strike —there are no eggs for home use or for sale. There is little milk or butter for home use. The people are existing by eating canned goods, that they buy from the stores, with the little money that they get from the saw mills and the cotton crop.

I carried with me a dozen of fresh eggs from Log Cabin farms. We explained that our hens are laying fresh eggs every day. I left the eggs as the best indication and evidence of a sensible program of education. We called attention to the vegetables now ready in our garden. We mentioned the sweet potatoes ready for use and for sale. We mentioned Log Cabin sweet potato pies that we are featuring in the drug stores and lunch rooms of Greene county. We left a dozen eggs for the teachers, who find that they must eat three times each day.

Several boys volunteered to raise and fatten calves for the second annual Negro Fat Calf Show and Sale to be held at Greensboro, Ga., in the spring of 1949. We have already visited the homes of these boys and girls and met and talked with their fathers and mothers.

At this meeting the parents and teachers decided to organize and do something about this whole matter, besides crying.

Realism in Education

At the community meeting the principal asked if Log Cabin farms would sell the school a bushel of sweet potatoes and two dozen eggs for the school lunch room. On Friday, November 12, I stopped by the school on my way to Greensboro. The teachers and children were at recess. The boys and girls were playing on the campus. When we took from our automobile the bushel of potatoes the children and the teachers seemed amazed at the eggs that they saw. These eggs were on the way to the market in Greensboro. The children asked: "What are you going to do with so many eggs?"

There were exactly 72 dozens of eggs—clean and fresh—packed in Log Cabin cartons, in our automobile. There were five Log Cabin pies, on the way to a drug store in Greensboro. We explained to the large group that gathered around the automobile that "We are getting a lot of fun and much money from people who have not had the time or the ability to produce for themselves the things that they need and must have."

We believe that this was one of the best lessons this school or any school for colored people ever had. Here the children saw a college and university educated black man, producing and selling what they only read about in the books. This to me is sure enough realism in education!

Home Reared Teachers

All of the teachers in the White Plains colored school are natives of this community, or of some rural Georgia home. Marianna Doods, Ida Mae Evans, Marie Scantling McMullen and Sadie M. Twilly are all graduates of Georgia State College, under my administration. They have all learned teacher-education at Log Cabin Center Summer School. They are not afraid to work.

Sun 11-21-48

It has always been my conviction that, other things being equal, that right-thinking people, are uslally more keenly interested in their own communities, their own children, than in some far off place. The teachers from their own locale, are sympathetically conversant with the problems of the people and want to help, in a sensible way, to improve living standards. Certainly these teachers are anxious to work, in, and outside of the school room! They want to "Let down their buckets where they are!"

Teacher-Education

In my humble judgment, there are many leaders of both race groups who share in my thinking—nothing has done more to help to straighten out the "kinks" in rural teacher-education for black folk, in Georgia, as the off campus summer school for teachers at Log Cabin Center. This school was started in 1932. It has brought to earth, the training of colored teachers for farm boys and girls. It is the first and only school of its kind for colored people in America. Few whites and no colored institutions had ever considered such a move, when this school was started 17 years ago. Most of the teacher-training colleges talk and theorize about realism in education today. There are many off campus schools for teachers today. But is it not the common-sense straight-thinking way, to have the teachers who are to work with and lead farm children, get much of their training in the open country, where they will be near pine trees, cotton, corn, sweet potatoes, good pasture, cows, hogs, chickens, and good gardens? They will at least get the "feel" of the thing that they hope to do—guide farm men and women and children to a better way of living and a fuller and better life. White folk should and will help in any worthwhile effort.

Negroes, Their Own Biggest Handicap

George S. Schuyler, the noted militant editor of the Pittsburgh Courier, the largest negro owned, negro edited newspaper in the world, after a recent trip through 14 different outhern states writes: "Negroes are heir own biggest handicap" There many clear thinking people of h race groups who will readily ree with Editor Schuyler. Most the Constitution

Negro School Busses

Editor Constitution: Several days ago The Constitution published an editorial in which Fulton County was praised for providing transportation for Negro pupils. In commenting upon the action of the Fulton County Board of Education in providing transportation for Negro pupils, the editorial stated that it was thought that Fulton County was the first county to provide such transportation.

For a long number of years several counties in Georgia have provided transportation for Negro pupils at public expense. During the 1946-47 school year 62 counties employed one or more busses to transport Negro pupils to and from school. These counties used a total of 147 busses to transport 10,509 children at a cost of $178,190. Our records show that Chatham County used 15 busses for the transportation of Negro pupils, Lowndes County six, Polk County five, Screven County five, Thomas County seven, Emanuel County six.

Tue. 8-10-48

In addition to the above transportation which was provided by busses, Boards of Education expended $18,823 for the use of 119 cars in transporting 917 Negro children to and from school. These cars are used in sparse areas and in many instances to transport pupils who have completed their elementary education and are in attendance at county high schools.

Atlanta, Ga.

CLAUDE PURCELL,
Director Pupil Transportation.

(Editor's Note: The Constitution is glad to know 39 percent of Georgia's 159 counties now provide school busses for at least a portion of their Negro children. However, 10,509 is but an even smaller percentage of rural Negro children who should be in school. The law requires that separate—but EQUAL—facilities be provided. Those counties which are not providing transportation to all students are vulnerable to court action.)

The Constitution Tues 10-19-48

Atlanta School Board Acts On Two Negro School Projects for $358,660

Atlanta Ga.

By HERMAN HANCOCK

The Atlanta Board of Education last night pointed up an earlier contention that it has a single standard of education for white and Negro students.

Board committees meeting in preparation for a Board meeting at 3 p. m. today, recommended designation of architects for two Negro school projects which will cost an estimated $358,660. At the same time the committees also approved selection of architects for two white school improvements costing $69,000.

Early yesterday the Board had issued what was regarded as tantamount to a "white paper" in denying discrimination against Negroes and submitted a long list of improvements and procedures in Negro schools.

Committees voted to recommend that the Board in session today ratify the appointment of Stephens & Wilkinson as architects for an addition to the E. P. Johnson Negro elementary school costing an estimated $261,660. A dozen new class rooms and a combination auditorium-cafeteria will be included.

Tues 10-19-48

Henry Jordan was recommended as architect for a new Wesley Negro elementary school costing another $97,000.

Class rooms for Whitefoord and Gordon white elementary schools costing $39,000 and $30,000 respectively were urged by the committees, with Pope Miller as architect.

The Board's formal statement regarding improvements to Negro schools was a reply to complaints filed by a Negro delegation September.

Tues 10-9-48

Negroes had criticized the Board for what they said were "inequalities in facilities and service" and contended that the "continued maintenance of such a policy" is a violation of the Constitution of the United States.

Categorically denying that it has either established or maintained a policy denying Negroes equal educational facilities, the statement said the Board has "only one policy—that is to furnish all school children the best school that good administration and available funds will allow."

In answer to Negro criticisms that the Board expends less per Negro child than for whites, the Board said the figures can be attributed to two factors: The number of Negro teachers employed per pupil and the over-all salaries paid to Negro teachers as compared to whites.

Tues 10-19-48

The statement said the first factor is accounted for by inadequate housing, which is now being corrected rapidly. The matter of salaries is now a subject of United States court litigation and additional discussion of that matter at this time was regarded as improper.

Asserting that the Board has tried for 25 years to get bond issues to improve housing facilities, the Board pointed out that the $9,000,000 bond issue voted in 1946 will still fail to meet all requirements although the Board has supplemented it with nearly $2,000,000 from current revenue. The failure is due to high building costs.

An imposing list of Negro improvements were cited. Included are conversion of the Gray, Walker, Davis and Hill schools for Negro use; acquisition and remodeling of Carver Vocational School; construction of the Boulevard-Irwin School.

Architects also are drafting plans for a new gymnasium-auditorium at Howard; land has been purchased for the Young and Walker schools; additional class rooms and an auditorium are being built at Ware School; Davis Street School is getting new class rooms and a cafeteria; a new Wesley Avenue School is underway, and projects are projected for nine other Negro elementary schools.

The long list of citations pointed out that salary payments to Negro teachers have been increased 121 percent since 1945; that 160 additional Negro teachers have been employed; that teacher loads meet requirements of the Southern Association; that four Negro schools have kindergartens and that others will be added when space permits, and that all high schools, white and Negro, have accredited libraries.

Double sessions have been reduced, visiting teachers have been increased from one to 11, school curriculum has been modernized, the number of Negro high schools has been increased from one to two, improved programs have been instituted in night and Summer schools, nursing and health projects have been added, and athletics and bands have been encouraged.

School Money In Black And White

Daily World

We have read and studied with great interest and pains the reply of the Atlanta Education Board to the petition of the Citizens Committee for the equalization of educational facilities for their children. And nowhere in it do we find what could logically be accepted as an honest and just answer.

Wed 10-20 1948

Specifically, the parents' petition charged that the Board "had established and maintained a policy of denying to Negro children educational facilities and services equal to those offered white-public school children in violation of the 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution." Basically, therefore, the question is not how many old school plants, formerly used by white pupils, had been given over to Negro pupils, but what is the Board doing to meet the growing needs of Negro students and to close the wide gap between the facilities and expenditures it makes on white and Negro pupils.

Atlanta Ga

In its supplemental report on Public School facilities for Negroes, released here in September, The Atlanta Urban League using figures from the annual report of City Superintendent, shows that the discrimination is growing wider. For example the average per pupil expenditure by race for the years 1943-1947 shows:

YEAR	Average Per Pupil Expenditure White & Negro	Average Per Pupil Expenditure White	Average Per Pupil Expenditure Negro	Difference in Avg. Per Pupil Expenditure White & Negro
1943-44	$ 93.41	$119.61	$44.11	$75.50
1944-45	97.81	124.00	47.78	76.22
1945-46	101.59	128.53	51.92	76.61
1946-47	110.59	139.73	59.88	79.85

For the same period, the League shows that approximately twice as much is spent for the education of the average white child at all levels than is spent for the education of the average Negro child. A glance at the table below should illustrate the League's contention:

YEAR	Per Pupil Cost	Kindergarten		Elementary		Junior High		Senior High	
	All	White	Negro	White	Negro	White	Negro	White	Negro
1943-44	$ 93.51	$ 94.67	$——	$107.02	$37.13	$130.85	$58.58	$157.64	$55.80
1944-45	97.81	95.61	26.48	110.57	39.29	138.83	62.74	162.61	66.99
1945-46	101.59	112.27	43.65	112.69	42.82	142.65	53.05	170.95	97.32
1946-47	110.59	122.13	50.90	121.95	51.63	162.18	59.43	173.13	99.53

Again on the matter of unit costs for investment in school plants by race, the League figures show that three times as much was invested per-pupil in school plants for Negro children:

YEAR	WHITE	NEGRO
1946-47	$439.27	$128.89

1947-48 383.87 158.42

We hope that the Board will consider seriously the question of what course of action it can take to bring about that measure of equality in educational opportunity in Atlanta which is legally required. To beat breasts about how many new buildings are being given over to Negro use is really begging a most important question. New and better buildings, according to the report, are also being provided for whites, but at a more rapid pace, as the figures above demonstrate.

Wed 10-20-48

It seems to us that too much energy is being expended on trying to show that there is no discrimination on the part of the Board toward the Negro pupils. If there is equality of opportunity in Atlanta it is the only city in all the South which does not discriminate between white and Negro pupils. It is honest to admit this much. It is even better to do something about it.

The Proposed Bond Issue

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta Ga

It is not often that we can give unqualified support to educational plans, involving the expenditure of funds for Negro and white school pupils. The reason is obviously clear the plans always, or nearly always, carry with them crippling inequalities and discrimination based upon race and color. Happily, that cannot be charged to the contemplated plan of the Fulton County Education Board to float a five million dollar Bond issue for the construction of additional county schools for white and Negro pupils.

14

Under the proposed construction program, spokesmen for the Board of Education say that $1,530,000 of the $5,000,000 will be allocated for the erection of adequate schools for Negro pupils of the county.

The Atlanta Urban League, a fact-finding organization in such matters, in a study initiated and completed since announcement of the proposed Bond issue, reports this striking conclusion:

Sun 12-19-48

"A trend has been evident in Fulton county since 1946-47 towards equalization in per-pupil investment in school plants which is reflected in a marked reduction in the racial differential In 1947-48. The Bond issue which allocates $1,530,000 for Negro schools appears to be a means to further equalization of plant facilities, when measured by the per-pupil investment in school plants." The Urban League findings, reported elsewhere in this issue, conclude with this recommendation:

"Active support by all citizens of Fulton county in behalf of securing a favorable vote on the Bond issue is clearly warranted. Passage of the Bond issue will make possible provision of educational facilities which are needed by all of the children of the county's population."

Sun 12-19-48

In view of the foregoing statements and in the interest of a continuing trend toward better schools for Negro pupils of the county, The Atlanta Daily World is happy to lend its support to the Bond issue and to urge upon Negro leaders as well as Negro voters, to give undivided support to it.. For county school superintendent Paul West, according to reports, has demonstrated a consistent attitude of fairness toward Negro teachers and Negro pupils alike..

Purging Of City Students Causes Widespread Alarm

Daily World

Thur 11-11-48

14

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

The Atlanta Board of Education was accused Tuesday night of conducting an unsystematic and unwarrantable purging of students from the rolls of Washington high school.

Atlanta Ga.

The accusations came from persons who identified themselves as guardians of students ousted from the school and were made during a mass meeting held at the West Mitchell Street CME Church, Rev. R. B. Shorts, pastor.

While there might have been some legitimate expulsions in the mass purge, there were large numbers of guardians in attendance who expressed an alarmful and disdainful attitude toward the action of the board with claims that their particular cases were unjustifiable. On the other hand, there appeared to have been some cases wherein the guardians had failed to comply with certain technicalities required by the City Board of Education.

The board was said to have made a survey at the school to determine "non residents" of the city. It was reported that those children whose parents reside out of the city were challenged and dropped from the rolls immediately without an analysis of their particular cases.

WHOLESALE PURGING

There were other cases where parents were dead or had forsaken their children leaving them in custody with grandparents, aunts and other relatives. They, too, were abruptly dropped from the rolls, it was said.

Thur 11-11-48

The Tuesday night meeting was under the sponsorship of the Metropolitan Parents Council for Better Schools. Another meeting has been set for Friday night at the church, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Several of the guardians sharply criticized the board for its abruptness in handling the matter, while others told of vainless efforts to have their children reinstated.

Although some of the guardians explained they had reared their children in the city since pre-school age, they were advised to secure guardianship papers from the county courthouse to make the guardianship legitimate. Only when this is done is the legal residence of the child in question establish-approximately twice the existing number—to reach minimum health standards; also, surer ways of putting medical care within the reach of low-income families.

(6) Securing wider coverage, by state and federal laws, of social security benefits. Dr. Mitchell observed that under prevailing laws "fewer Southern people are in covered occupations, and our lower wage scales have backed up smaller contributions."

IMPLEMENTING PROGRAM

During the afternoon session, with President Paul D. Williams presiding, the group discussed the problems of implementing the proposed program on the local level. Dr. Mitchell stressed the importance of the community self-survey. He informed the group that the Council can now offer a manual and technical assistance to Southern communities which want to learn what their problems are and how they can be remedied.

Dean Gordon Hancock pointed out that the Council's Hometown Self-Survey in Richmond, Va. provided the techniques and strategies used in that city to get playgrounds swimming pools, and better school buildings for Negroes.

Suggested pamphlets and reading materials for implementing the program included an FEPC pamphlet, a continued publishing of The New South, the Hometown Self-Survey, a plan for the South, a manual for leadership training and a manual for newspapers to serve as a guide for handling racial news.

Earlier, Paul D. Williams, publisher's representative of Richmond, Va., and president of the Council, told the group that "one of the hopeful developments of the past year is that both the South and the nation have received a vast amount of education about civil rights."

"Millions of people in the South who had given the matter little thought," he commented, "were told that improvement is demanded soon...... It will become increasingly hard for the region to take discrimination for granted and practice them as a matter-of-course."

Education Board Approves Two School Projects

Daily World

Wed 10-20-48

14

To Publicize

Progress On Race Schools

Atlanta Ga

By C. LAMAR WEAVER

In the wake of charges and counter-charges between aroused parents and the Atlanta Board of Education on the issue of inadequate educational facilities for Negro public school students, the board took a constructive step at its meeting Tuesday in approving a recommendation from the Building and Grounds committee that an estimated $358,660 be allocated to architects for a new Wesley Avenue elementary school and an addition to the E. P. Johnson elementary school.

The concern of Stephens and Wilkerson was approved as architects in an addition at the E. P. Johnson school at an estimated cost of $261,660. Henry Jordan was the approved architect in constructing the new Wesley Avenue School at an estimated cost of $97,000.

Improvements for two white schools amounting to an estimated $69,000 was also ratified.

PUBLICATIONS APPROVED

Another recommendation approved was an allotment of $150 upon recommendation of the finance committee to be used for publications explaining what the board is doing on Negro education.

Wed 10-20-48

Originally, the board was scheduled to hold its regular quorum the preceding Tuesday. Despite the postponement, the board members on hand gave audience to a large delegation of aroused parents who sought some definite understanding on what the board contemplated in alleviating the congested conditions at the Negro schools.

During the board's regular quorum in September, a group of 43 parents filed a formal petition with the board asking for relief in alleged discriminatory practices in educational facilities leveled at Negro studenjs .The board denide the charges.

At any rate, the charges and counter-charges caused increased consternation among the opposing forces and exploded into a public airing said to be only the beginning.

The Negro parents made known that they would rather see relief through normal proedures than through court litigation.

Negro Schools

The Constitution

Editor Constitution: Hats off to Mr. Chester E. Martin! I think he is absolutely right. Why help the Negro, generally speaking, if he doesn't help himself? Atlanta, Ga.

Right here in this section of Georgia we have five Negro schools within a five-mile radius. Do they go to these schools? The answer is NO. And if you think this is misrepresenting it come around next Fall and see what percent of the roll is present. And I don't mean only while they're working on the farm, but any time. I'm sure you'd say, "Well, I'm surprised!" Fri.

Of course, the schools are small wooden structures, but if you want to learn does that matter?

It would also be surprising to know how few of these Negroes pay taxes to help support these schools. In this neighborhood it would probably run about one-half of one percent. 7-2-48

So you see it's quite a problem, and maybe Mississippi has something there when they say—"Send them to the States that know the answer to the problem," for they seem to be more worried than we, and much, much more so than the Negro they're worrying about.

Remember, "God helps those who help themselves." 7-2-48 A READER.

Greenville.

Atlanta Schools Plan, Too---and Well

In a recent editorial commending the report of the Fulton County schools, we took occasion to say the County seemed to be planning better than the City to meet the problem of maintaining separate—but equal—school facilities.

14

Now comes one of our favorite persons, Miss Ira Jarrell, Superintendent of the City schools, to say the City, too, is planning, and well. The City has, perhaps, hid its light under the proverbial bushel. The facts are good.

Ga

We had commented on the fact that no City high school for Negroes had an auditorium or gymnasium and this was the basis for future trouble. This was true, save for the new Carver Vocational School, but it soon will be true no longer. On Aug. 3, bids will be opened for construction of a gymnasium-auditorium at Howard High School. The next budget will include, out of capital funds, an auditorium-gymnasium for Washington High School. Atlanta Ga.

On the face of things the complaint of some of the Washington High School officials that funds allocated from the recent bond monies included an auditorium-gymnasium, seems justified. Such a building was included. But. the facts are that the full amount of money allocated for the school is being spent in replacing portables and the "barn" in which the classes were held. Cost increases since the money was allocated forced the Board to decide between new classrooms or the auditorium. Classrooms won, and we think properly so. But the whole amount authorized is being spent there. The same thing happened to a white school, Murphy, which is having to wait on its auditorium-gymnasium.

One hundred and forty new Negro teachers have been added and the concentration of all vocational work at the Carver School will relieve the pressure at Washington and Howard Schools. Meanwhile, the City still is having to care for 472 County students. Thu. 7-29-48

The planning indicates that all school children of both races will have better schools, facilities and teaching than before. The job of providing separate but equal facilities is being tackled realistically.

Best of all, the City and County school officials are working co-operatively together, pointing the way to an even better future for schools. We congratulate County and City Superintendents Paul D. West and Miss Ira Jarrell, and pledge them our continued support.

Sweeping Investigation Of Ills Urged

The Lighthouse and Informer

Citizens Speak Mind About Local Alleged Condition

Columbia, S.C.

Sun.

6-6-48

BY MARION E. JACKSON

ATLANTA, GEORGIA. (SNS)- A full scale investigation of Booker T. Washington High School may come as an aftermath of the slaying of two youths Friday afternoon as T M. Alexander, prominent insurance man, branded the institution a "seed-bed of juvenile and adult delinquency" in an open letter to Atlanta citizens.

Alexander in his letter demanded that the Board of Education appoint an interracial committee "to investigate the situation that prevails".

There was swift concurrence in Alexander's viewpoint. Mrs J. S. Flipper charged that the school is in a "deplorable condition" and added "I am sure that the situation has now reached a crisis. Something must be done at once.

NURSE COMMENTS Sun

Mrs. H. H. Anderson, R.N., said: "There should be a thorough and impartial investigation of the continuing incidents at the school as well as of the moral and educational qualification of the school's faculty." 6-6-48

Alexander in a call-to-arms challenge stated: "It is a reflection on the intelligence of this community to allow this situation to persist. The Parent-Teachers Association, Urban League, N. A. A. C. P. and Citizens Committee need to combine their efforts to delouse Washington High."

Rev. M. L. King, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, declined to comment on the conditions at Washington High, but termed the shooting "a ridiculous thing" in blaming state of affairs at Washington High on" congestion and carelessness on the part of teachers".

Mrs. George D. Kelsey placed the blame solely on "congestion".

NEGLECT CHARGED

Charges of gross professional neglect came on the heels of the death of Junior Askins, 17, of 321 Paynes Avenue, and William Cornelius Butler, 14, of Drummond St., S. W. allegedly at the hands of Elijah and Arthur Brown, 253 Merritts Avenue.

DANGERS CLAIMED

Alexander furthur charges: "Morality is very lax and teachers are fearful of protesting vigorously regarding these conditions".

"The sefety and security of our children is in constant jeopardy and it is hardly safe to walk the streets in the vicinity of the school".

"It is also alleged that the accused assailant, whose shootings resulted in the fatal deaths of two youths, had had free excess to the school even though he was graduated over the protest of many teachers, and enjoyed the privilege of maintaining certain keys which made the building available to him. He is reported to have, prior to the shooting, been permitted to hang around unmolested. It is further alleged that the throwing of coke bottles has endangered both teachers and students."

"Morality is very lax and teachers are fearful of protesting vigorously regarding these conditions. The Board of Education should be urged to appoint an interracial committee to investigate the situation that prevails. The safety and securety of our children is at stake. Too much has been muffed and quieted by expediency and fear. We have failed to expose this situation to public scrunity Let us not wait until the ghost of our stupidity, indifference and lethargy rest on our own door steps. It is better for our children to be ignorant and alive than dead and educated. If you have never bowed over the cradle of your own child you would not appreciate this position. "Now is the hour"."

Reader Points Out General Responsibility Of Citizens

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 6-2-48

(Editor's Note: This is one of the letters the World has received on the general school situation in Atlanta. This might also apply to any community.)

TO THE WORLD EDITOR:

This is not a gripe. It is an appeal. It is an appeal to everyone—young and old. And, I am making this appeal from the point of view of four persons: son, father, teacher and citizen.

As a son, I must not bring disgrace and shame to my name and to my parents. I must respect and honor them— enough, at least, to live and develop in the light of their respect for law, order, human personality, and genuine values.

As a father of two children, I am naturally interested in their culture in their health, security, development and safety. Together with my wife, I must inculate in them principles of right thinking, right doing, right social and christian behavior. To this end, I must not elevate dances, deluxe cars, golf, poker, clothes, bawdy women, the business of making a great deal of money or of attaining the social register above them. I must not permit them to grow up like weeds, uncultivated, uncared for, undisciplined. Indeed, I must make my home a society in miniature, a place where each is trained to be a strong, independent individual and yet an unselfish member of the group working for the welfare of the group. Further, I must make my home an intelligent, worthy ally of both church and school. Nor must I blame either church or school or both, if I fail in my duty as a parent. For in the home is the best teaching opportunity. I must not fail that opportunity.

Negroes Petition Board For Equal School Facilities

Wed 14 The Constitution

9-15-48

Equalization of Negro and white educational opportunities and conversion of two white schools for use by Negroes was asked of the Atlanta Board of Education yesterday by a delegation of Negroes.

Led by S. S. Robinson, an Auburn Avenue attorney, about 60 Negroes appeared at a meeting of the Board of Education to present a petition signed by representatives of 14 Negro schools. The petition criticized a "policy of denying to Negro school children educational facilities and services equal to those offered white public school children in Atlanta."

It carried figures designed to show the Atlanta Board expends less than half the amount per Negro child it expends for each white child, urged a general expansion of facilities for Negroes and asked that Ira Street School, burned recently, be rebuilt and dedicated for use by Negroes and the Kingsberry School on English Avenue be converted for use of Negroes.

The Board took the petition under advisement and Miss Ira Jarrell, City School Superintendent, issued a statement saying the Atlanta Board of Education is attempting to do "the very things the petition seeks and when populations become preponderantly Negro we will convert the schools." She said $3,500,000 in the $10,000,000 bond issue for school improvements has been earmarked for improvement of facilities for Negroes and pointed out work already has been authorized on Irwin-Boulevard, Davis and Ware Negro Schools. She added facilities for Negroes have been improved steadily in the past several years and they will continue to show improvement.

Wed

H. D. Hamilton, of Young Street (Negro) School, offered the use of a Scout hut there for the opening of a Negro kindergarten. The offer was referred to the Board's Building and Grounds Committee for a recommendation. 9 15 48

The Board also:

1. Awarded a contract to Sharpe and Davis for renovation of the Davis Street School at a cost of $88,500. The existing structure, including the auditorium, will be brick veneered, renovated and modernized throughout. A cafeteria, offices and two additional classrooms will be added.

2. Authorized a holiday Oct. 1 so that Atlanta's school children may attend the Southeastern Fair.

3. Changed the school calendar so that Christmas holidays will begin Tuesday, Dec. 21, instead of Friday, Dec. 17. The change was necessary because schools opened later than was anticipated when the calendar was prepared and because the Fair holiday was granted. Wed

4. Concurred in the nomination of G. Y. Smith as Director of Cafeterias, and several other personnel changes. 9-15-48

5. Voted to permit W. O. Cheney, veteran of 39 years' service and former principal of the old Tech High School, to retire.

6. Decided to oppose proposal to rezone property for business use near the new Murphy High School and to substitute bronze plaques for cornerstones on new buildings erected in the school expansion program.

14 1948

Illinois

Six Negroes Chi Principals

(14)

CHICAGO (ANP) —The most striking appointment of public school principals in the history of the Chicago educational system or perhaps that of any other northern city, occurred this week when six new Negro principals were named to posts as head of elementary schools here. The six teachers, all of whom have had wide and important teaching experience in the Chicago system, included Miss Louise Gaines, Robert E. Lewis, Mrs. Virginia F. Lewis, Mrs. Thelma Payne Powell, Mrs. Mary A. Thomas and Mrs. Harmon Miller.

This was the first resumption of large scale civil service appointments in a number of years. In all 78 new principals were named, 46 of them to active duty, the remainder to a waiting list which will insure appointments during the next three or four years.

Miss Gaines, who becames the youngest principal in the Chicago system, is a graduate of the Chicago Teacher's College and holds a B. S. in psychology and an M. A. in education from the University of Chicago.

(19)

Mrs. Virginia F. Lewis and her husband, Robert E., were the only couple out of seven man and wife teacher teams to take the examination and both pass. She stood highest of the six successful applicants and will become head of Willard school. Mr. Lewis, who has been vice-principal of Corliss high, will take charge of Drake elementary. Both are graduates of Chicago Teachers College and of Northwestern University.

Mrs. Thelma Payne Powell received both her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Chicago. She will have two schools under her supervision, Keith and Armour. One school is 98 per cent colored and the other 100 per cent white pupils and teachers.

Mrs. Mary A. Thomas and Mrs. Anna Harmon Miller go on the eligible waiting list.

Mayor Denounces Second Class Citizenship; CIO Aids Fight Of NAACP

The Defender

Sat 7-3-48

Chicago Ill

ELKHART, Ind.—In the heart of this once Klan-ridden state, this city went on record June 22, as ending its Jim Crow grade schools and Mayor Larson stated publicly that he had no wish to hold his high public office "in a city that that has second class citizens."

This wholly satsifactory situation rose out of a strong fight for school equality spearheaded by the NAACP and the CIO-Industrial Union Council.

Offer National Aid

With the National NAACP offering its legal assistance and the white newspaper, "The Elkart Truth" speaking out in favor of welcoming NAACP action because of the organization's fine history, a "mock trial" of the Southside school versus the school board was conducted June 18 by Marian Wynn Perry, special counsel for NAACP. An interracial audience of 100 stood to be counted in favor of abolition of the segregated school.

Mayor Speaks Out

It was at this time that Mayor Larson went on record as favoring equal citizenship for all residents of Elkhart and said he would be interested in hearing the defense put up by the Board of Education.

On Monday, June 21, the school board had scheduled a brief meeting. As a "prelude" it was to tour the schools before discussion of necessary expenditures for next year. But with citizen delegations present, the brief session became a three-and-one-half hour gathering at which the board voted to end segregation at South Side school.

See Future "Problems"

Problems growing out the of the decision will be ironed out later, according to the board. Supt. Harold H. Church pointed out that, despite the run down condition of the school, it would be impossible to abandon it now because of school overcrowding.

Seen as a future "problem" is the fact that Negro teachers are employed, in part, at the school. The board seemed to feel that white parents will not permit their children to attend classes there.

Report To Citizens

However, after making the decision in the superintendent's office, the board went upstairs to a study hall and reported to a citizens committee which included Perry Hardy of the CIO Industrial council, representatices of the NAACP whose president is Earl Drye, and 17 parents of South side school pupils. They were told there would be no more Jim Crow schools in Elkhart.

Sat 7-3-48

In its editorial telling the citizens of Elkhart to welcome NAACP action, the Elkhart Truth stated that "The principle of equality as set forth in the 14th Amendment to the Constitution is an accepted fact in our churches, our and junior high schools, in our kindergartens, in our high schools hotels, in our recreation playgrounds, in our theaters—practically everywhere except perhaps in some eating places, and in the first six grades of our public schools."

Supt. Church said a survey to set commensense school boundaries will be made during the summer. There will be no racial barriers.

Indianapolis Jim Crow School Battle Rages

(14) (Ind.)

The Defender

INDIANAPOLIS — Legal action by parents and the NAACP looms as a year-long fight to end the city's Jim Crow school system reached a climax last week when 75 parents met with the Board of Education to protest public school 43's ban of Negroes and 200 white children continued an eight-day-long boycott of the school.

Leading the delegation to the board were W. T. Ray, local NAACP president; Mrs. Jessie Jacobs, executive secretary, and Mrs. Osme Spurlock, education chairman.

Sat 10-2-48

They and others scored the system wherein democracy is taught from textbooks and refused in practice to elementary school children. One woman pointed out that white children play in her yard with her children everyday and demanded to know whey they couldn't also all go to the same schools.

Find Space In School 43

NAACP leaders said that a tour of school 43 had shown that there is room for more students and that two rooms now used as libraries could be converted into classrooms.

Children of the area, which is becoming more densely populated in the past two years with many of the new residents Negroes, must go several miles by bus to Negro school No. 87.

Chicago Ill

Protest Wasted Tax Money

The delegates to the board protested paying taxes to support school 43 if they could not use it, blasted the waste of taxpayers money to supply unnecessary busses to carry children great distances to Jim Crow schools when facilities are available near their homes and demanded that some action, legal if necessary, be taken.

Indianapolis developed its Jim Crow school system during the heydey of the Klu Klux Klan in Indiana, its birthplace and for many years its home. However in recent years, the power of the Klan has wasted to almost nothing in the state and Indiana was among the first of the states to pass an FEPC and make public avowals of race hate punishable by law.

At the board meeting last week, as at previous hearings here, several members were outspokenly opposed to school integration. However, DeWight Peterson, who seemed sincerely concerned over remedying the situation said:

"You are right socially and in principle but the mechanics of the situation are not easily worked out."

Superintendent of Schools Virgil Stingbaugh had previously received a delegation of 4[illegible] parents in what they called an insolent and indifferent manner. He said the school board decides policy and referred the group to the board thus pointing the way to the later action.

Sat 10-2-48

(14)

NAACP strategy led 45 Negroes to organize and present their children at school 43 when it opened recently. The principal, a Mr. Gosset refused to admit them.

Catholic Students Organize Boycott On Intolerance

(14)

Journal Guide

DUBUQUE, Iowa — Special — Students at Immaculate Conception Academy, Catholic academy for girls here, have resolved to boycott places of business in which intolerance of any kind is fostered. The resolution has been approved by the faculty at the school, and student committees have been sent to other Catholic schools of the city to solicity co-operation.

Sat 6-19-48

The resolution reads as follows: "We the students of Immaculate Conception, have pledged ourselves against intolerance, whether racial or religious.

"We purpose not to patronize places in which these un-Christian and un-American views are practiced. We hope thus to make the owners of these places realize the selfishness of such views and reverse their attitude. Such action, however, will not be taken without notifying theim of our intentions.

Norfolk Va

"By this we mean no personal offense to the proprietors of places where intolerance is practiced, but let it be known we shall do all in our power to combat such intolerance; for we are convinced that a definite step taken against un-democratic relations will make Dubuque a better place, and a better Dubuque means a better world for us, the citizens of tomorrow."

Child of White Woman Eligible for White School

Courier Journal

Sept. 14, 48

Frankfort, Ky., Sept. 13 (AP)—Attorney General A. E. Funk recommended today the child of a white woman be admitted to a white school, even though a question has been raised as to its race.

A County school superintendent, in asking advice, said there was no record of the child's father.

Louisville Ky.

Funk explained several leading physicians told him they knew of no test to show whether a child has Negro blood. He added that unless some evidence can be produced, he believes the superintendent will be required by law to admit the child to a white school.

14

$400,000 FOR SCHOOL SANITATION SOUGHT

The Times-Picayune

New Orleans, La.

Luncheon Program Health Menace, Says Ball

Thurs.

Superintendent of Public Schools Lionel J. Bourgeois Wednesday said he would ask for an increase of $400,000 in the operating budget to remedy the unsanitary conditions in the New Orleans public school buildings.

An additional $800,000 also will be asked if the voters in November approve a constitutional amendment for an additional 3-mill tax Mr. Bourgeois said. The money will be used on a three-year improvement program, he added. 7-15-48

"It will take at least three years to renovate the buildings," he said. "It can't be done with the wave of a wand."

Bourgeois' announcement came after a report from the city health department was released showing that unsanitary conditions exist in 93 of the public schools.

The report was based on a survey made during April and May by members of the department's bureau of sanitation. Director of the bureau is Charles J. Ball.

In submitting the survey report, Ball said the "entire school luncheon program is a public health menace. The manner in which food is handled and conditions under which it is served . . . are disgustingly insanitary."

'Must Be Corrected'

He said that unless considerable improvements are instituted this summer, "some of them should not be permitted to resume classes in September."

Dr. John M. Whitney, city health director, said he had notified Superintendent Bourgeois that the unsanitary conditions "must be corrected." Thurs.

"However," he said, "the schools will be given a reasonable time in which to make necessary repairs. Another check will be made before schools open in the fall." 7-15-48

Ball said that enforcement of existing public health laws would terminate the operation of some schools. In fact, he said, conditions appear to have been "grossly neglected."

Mr. Bourgeois said that the conditions pointed out in the report were not new to him. He said the conditions have existed for more than 25 years.

"The reason," he pointed out, "is that maintenance had to be neglected because of a lack of financial resources available to preceding administrations."

Cleanliness Training

On the other hand he pointed out that some of the faults mentioned in the survey could be remedied without the expenditure of money. Some of these are listed as follows:

1. General housekeeping.
2. Exposure of uncovered food. The Times Picayune
3. Failure on the part of lunch program employes to maintain a high standard of cleanliness. New Orleans, La.

As to the last, Bourgeois said he would start an "inservice" training course for all employes of the lunch room program before schools open in the fall.

He also said that he will place the responsibility for sanitary conditions on the principals of the schools. In the past, principals have had no control over the cafeterias. Thurs

Mr. Bourgeois said that this "additional criticism of public schools physical deficiencies when added to the recent report on hazardous conditions by the fire marshal reveal that it will require approximately $4,000,000 to rehabilitate our public schools."

Objectionable Conditions

Terming some conditions in the white and Negro schools as "disgraceful," the report stated that in one school "pupils actually were using their bare hands to scrape pigeon dung from outlets of fountains in order to obtain drinking water." 7-15-48

Other conditions listed were presence of roaches in many of the lunch rooms, rat and roach excreta in many kitchen cabinets, eating in unscreended area and insufficient toilet facilities.

Following are listed some objectionable conditions:

Alcee Fortier High school, defective toilets, large cracks in rest rooms; unsanitary cafeteria; five defective drinking fountains and paint peeling from walls and ceilings. The Times - Picayune

Martin Behrman High school, unsanittary conditions in cafeteria and kitchen. New Orleans, La.

Warren Easton High school, defective toilets and fountains; interior of building in need of repairs and lighting. Cafeteria needs repairs.

John McDonogh High school, no private dressing rooms for girls participating in physical education program; dirty kitchen and utensils.

Samuel J. Peters High school, use of public drinking cups which is in violation of the state law; chipped dishes being used; dirty drinking fountains and faulty toilets. The Times-Picayune

Henry W. Allen school, drinking straws exposed and not protected against contamination; kitchen cutlery dirty; dirty windows and four defective drinking fountains. New Orleans, La.

Audubon school, crude and primitive luncheon features with children eating at uncovered tables; wall plaster in toilets create hiding places for roaches and spiders. 7-15-48

Higgins school, all drinking fountains dirty; walls in need of repair; insufficient amount of air space for each pupil. Thurs.

Frank T. Howard school, a flagrant violation of the state sanitary code was charged with report that six drinking fountains were found in the male toilet room.

Unscreened Room

Belleville school, children forced to eat in an unscreened room.

Judah P. Benjamin school, rat holes found in pantry and throughout the entire building.

A. D. Crossman school, pigeon droppings found on windows.

Robert C. Davey school, firewood stored directly on the ground in the school yard, creating a rat harbor.

McDonogh No. 10 school, wall plaster broken; bad lighting.

Thirty-one Negro schools were listed by the survey as being unsanitary and unhealthful. The longest list of defects was written against Booker T. Washington High school.

The report said that drinking fountains, toilets and washing facilities were faulty on all floors of the school. Thurs.

Other violations in Negro elementary schools are as follows:

Marie C. Couvent school, "every classroom in this school is overcrowded in violation of law." Dirty walls, insufficient toilet facilities and dirty toilets.

Rudolph T. Danneel school, drinking fountains dirty and defective; every room overcrowded; rat harbors beneath stage; toilets filthy. 7-15-48

John W. Hoffman school, only four drinking fountains for 555 students.

NO WHITE SCHOOLS TO BE CONVERTED

Times-Picayune

Wed. 6-9-48

Funds to Go for New Negro Units, Says Bourgeois

New Orleans

No former white schools will be converted to Negro use, the Orleans parish school board has decided. Wed. 6-9-48

The decision was announced Tuesday by Superintendent Lionel J. Bourgeois, who said the board will devote its finances and energies to building new Negro schools where needed "and toward the equalization of educational opportunity."

Through Bourgeois the board said it is "unconditionally committed to the principle of the equality of educational opportunity for all the children of New Orleans regardless of race." It added that it has endorsed the superintendent's program to improve the public schools, including adequate building facilities for Negroes, equality of teacher-pupil ratios, special services, opportunity classes, kindergartens and adult education — "in other words, total equality of opportunity." 6-9-48

But, the board said, it feels its financial program, supported by the citizens, will be approved by the Legislature, and it can then move toward attaining these objectives. "In the meantime, the board believes it will be the better part of wisdom to abstain from doing anything which will create tension among our people," the statement read.

It had previously been announced that at least two former white schools would be opened for Negro students in September.

Two Louisiana School Boards Sued In Court

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

Sat 6/12

Special to Journal and Guide

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Suits have been filed ~~in the~~ **United States District Court here charging two Louisiana Parish school boards with discriminatory practices ~~against~~ Negro students. The action was taken by 24 colored citizens against the Orleans and Iberville parish school boards on June 2.**

The plaintiffs charge the Orleans Parish board with denying Negro children instruction in certain courses of study provided for white students. They also accuse the board of not permitting adult Negroes to share in ~~the~~ public ~~education~~ program. Modern and sanitary schools such as are provided for white students, the plaintiffs assert are not available to Negro students.

The suit also claims that there will be no adequate high schools available for the 1,109 Negro children who are scheduled to graduate from elementary schools this year.

4/8

IBERVILLE SUIT

In the Iberville suit the plaintiffs demand that Negro children be provided with bus transportion facilities equal to those provided available to white children. This suit also repeats the Orleans parish charges of a denial of instruction and a lack of modern sanitary and secondary schools.

Commenting on the Orleans suit William Fletcher, Orleans Parish board member, said that Negro educational requirements had always been considered when planning board policies and that those policies were not discriminatory.

$2,500,000 SCHOOL BONDS PROPOSED

The Times-Picayune

New Orleans, La.

Pilie to Ask Board to Act for Building Program

Tues. 11-30-48

Louis H. Pilie, member of the Orleans parish school board, will ask the board today to issue $2,500,000 in bonds for a school building program and to retire the debt by levying a one-mill tax.

Other members of the school board Monday expressed differing attitudes toward Pilie's proposal.

R. Emmet Mahoney said he favors the bond issue because of the present need for new schools; William C. Fletcher had no comment, and Board President Robert M. Haas said he unalterably opposes further bond issues.

Mrs. Jacqueline McCullough, who will take office December 10, said she favors issuing the bonds, but opposes levlying the tax.

Pilie Sees 'Dire' Need

In a statement Monday, Pilie said he would request the bond issue because of the "dire" need of school buildings and added he will support Public School Superintendent Lionel J. Bourgeois' move to make Samuel J. Peters High school co-educational by February 1, 1949.

He said a board meeting will be held today at 1:30 p. m. to discuss consolidation of schools and "such other matters as the school board may deem timely."

He said the school board had done "considerable talking but very little acting" about the construction of new schools. The one-mill tax for debt retirement would be part of the three mills which Constitutional Amendment No. 34, voted early this month gives the board the right to levy.

Tues. 11-30-48

Board President Haas said he is definitely opposed to issuing bonds because of heavy interests the board is now paying on bonds issued since 1927 that are still outstanding.

He said over $6,000,000 outstanding bonds (non-callable) on which payment is to be completed in 1967 is presently costing the board about $500,000 annually. A new issue of $2,500,000 would add about $200,000 more to the annual debt retirement, he said.

Calls For Quick Action

Asserting that a half-million dollars would just about cover the cost of one modern school building, Pilie said "we need more than six schools for Negroes now and we need them quickly."

He said the more than $1,500,000 that the Orleans parish school board would get within the next two-years as a result of Lieutenant Governor William J. Dodd's decision on distribution of the $8,000,000 special teachers salary fund—is of a temporary nature.

He said extra money is needed immediately and he proposes that construction of schools for Negroes be started as soon as possible through funds derived from a bond issue.

"Undoubtedly, there will be a cry of 'more taxes, more taxes', but I would like to remind the

citizens that $1 on each $1000 of assessment is a pittance of a price to pay for the good that will be accomplished when compared with the very high excise and sales taxes on beer, hard liquor, jewelry, fur coats and other luxuries," he said.

"The owner of a house assessed at $10,000 will pay five times more taxes than that produced by one mill without complaint, chiefly because the taxes he paid on luxuries are hidden within the purchase price. Then again, real estate and personal property taxes can be deducted by the payer in calculating federal and state income taxes. Excise taxes cannot be treated similarly."

Will Ask Inquiry

Pilie said he will further ask the school board to investigate whether Texas finances its schools in some of its larger cities by deeding oil and mineral lands to the school systems.

"Whether Texas does it or not, I think Governor Long may look favorably upon this method of assuring the schools a steady income from this source, thus making the schools less dependent upon the whims of the legislators when emergency relief is needed," said Pilie.

Mahoney said he initially opposed levying of additional taxes as provided under Amendment No. 34 because of the opposition of Orleans parish property holders.

"However, because the need for new schools is now so urgent, I'm willing to go along with Mr. Pilie's proposal to issue bonds and retire the debt by assessment of only one mill," he said.

Mahoney said the bond issue had previously been suggested by Mayor Morrison and he added that "after talking to many businessmen and property holders, I have found hat they have no objections at all to a one-mill tax."

La. Citizens Ask Equality in Schools

The Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

NEW ORLEANS — Charging that colored pupils are denied instruction in certain courses which are available to white pupils, 24 citizens have filed suit against two Louisiana parish school boards in U.S. District Court here.

Sat. 6-12-48

The complaint against the Orleans Parish Board also contends that adult colored persons are barred from the public education program and that modern and sanitary schools such as are provided for white pupils are not provided for others.

In addition, it is stated that no adequate secondary school will be available for the 1109 children who will graduate from elementary schools this month.

Iberville Parish is the other defendant. Citizens from this area in addition to the same charges that are aimed at the Orleans Parish, want bus transportation provided for the children equal to that given white children.

Almost 5 Times More Spent On White Students

Journal Guide

Hinton's Report On Situation Amazing To Jewish Students

Sat. 3-6-48

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—A group of Jewish students at the University of South Carolina was horrified to learn that during the current fiscal year South Carolina is spending more than $32,000,000 to educate whites and but $7,000,000 on Negroes.

Norfolk Va.

The figures, amounting to 19 per cent for colored who are 43 per cent of the population, were given the students by James M. Hinton, state president of the NAACP who addressed them in the Tree of Life Building.

Taken from the current report of the state superintendent of education, Jesse T. Anderson, the figures show a total expenditure of $32,714,158 in all branches of training for whites and $7,936,749 for Negroes.

[illegible] ANALYZED

[illegible] into three categories, [illegible] are: higher education, whites, $8,235,500, Negroes, $[illegible],000. Salaries and administrative expenses for elementary and secondary schools, white, $[illegible],658; colored, $7,349,749. School transportation, white, $2,200,000; colored $64,000.

The report shows 1,503 white schools in the state and 2,120 schools for Negroes. There are [illegible] white teachers and administrators and 6,304 Negroes. The state operated 586 buses for white children and but 23 for Negroes. (About 70 per cent of the [illegible],000 Negroes in the state live in communities of less than 5,000 population.)

According to the figures there [illegible] counties without any [illegible] school facilities at all for [illegible] while there is at least [illegible] institution in every [illegible] for whites.

[illegible] ACCREDITED 3-6-48

The state accredits 318 of the white schools and 54 of the colored; however, the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools approves only [illegible] of the white institutions and [illegible] of those run for colored.

The state operates partially or [illegible] five institutions of learning for whites, including a medical college and a military school, [illegible] one for Negroes. Were it not for four privately operated colleges, each of which is [illegible] packed to its enrollment limit, the professional training opportunity for Negroes would be [illegible] worse than at present, with about 800 students on the combined waiting lists of the Negro colleges.

The NAACP leader told the students that the situation represents what happens under "state's rights" as interpreted by southern congressmen. "It is only through the unsegregated system," he said, "that we can hope for any real equality. The South, being as poor as it is, cannot pay the cost of the dual system with any significant degree of impartiality."

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24 Negro Students File Charges Of Educational Bias

Age
New York, N.Y.

NEW ORLEANS, LA. - Two suits were filed here by 24 Negro students in U. S. District Court on Thursday charging discrimination against two Louisiana parish school boards.

Sat.

The New Orleans parish board was charged with denying Negro children instruction in certain courses of study afforded white students.

6-19-48

The suit also charged that adult Negroes are barred from the public education program and that modern and sanitary schools such as are provided for white students, were not provided for Negroes.

6-19-48

It was also claimed that there would be no adequate secondary schools available for 1109 children who will be graduated from elementary schools this year.

Farmers Urged To Help Improve Negro Schools

The Advertiser
Fri 10-29-48

JACKSON, MISS, Oct, 28—(AP)—Farmers attending the annual session here of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation were urged by its president today to improve education for Negroes.

Ransom E. Aldrich, of Michigan City, federation president in an address said:

"Too long we have misused education funds in Mississippi. This thing has got to be solved by ourselves or somebody is going to solve it for us, and it won't be solved the way we want it solved."

"I know," he continued, "it takes a lot of nerve to stand up here when political issues are so hot and talk about this, but maybe it is the best time."

Aldrich said that "just so long as we keep them (Negroes) an economic liability, just so long do we retard Mississippi's progress."

Montgomery Ala.

540,651 ENROLLED IN COMMON SCHOOLS

Times Picayune

The Associated Press

Jackson, Miss., Nov. 25.—Enrollment in Mississippi's common schools totaled 540,651 during the past fiscal term, the state department of education reported.

Average daily attendance, the department's annual tabulation showed, was 458,120.

Fri 11-26-48

White students enrolled numbered 274,998, with average daily attendance of 238,790, the report said, while 265,653 Negro students were enrolled with average daily attendance of 2[illegible],330.

New Orleans La.

First eight grades of schools, the report noted, had 214,865 white children with an average daily attendance of 184,370. In the same group, there were enrolled 248,529 Negro students, with an average daily attendance of 202,880.

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15 Brooklyn Citizens Donate $4,000 Bus to Miss. Youngsters

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
Sat 5-1-48

CAMDEN, Miss. — A $4,000 bus to transport colored youngsters between their homes and Sacred Heart School here has been donated to the institution by a group of 14 Jews and an Irishman from Brooklyn, N.Y. The gift fulfilled a promise which the group of 15 men made last spring after they learned of the work being done among under-privileged colored children here.

Sat-5-1-48

More than 140 children attend the school. The bus, which carries 48 passengers, makes a 48-mile trip each morning and a 49-mile trip each evening. A spokesman for the Jewish donors said: "Our people have suffered much all over Europe. We in America have good homes and want to do something to he p fellow Americans."

SUPERINTENDENT OF ST. LOUIS SCHOOLS

St. Louis Argus

Fri. 1-16-48

St. Louis Mo.

In the evolution of the St. Louis School System, there came a time when it seemed wise to classify the service, and to appoint officials to direct and to manage each department.

The full service of the schools called for instruction, finance auditing, building, and supply. Accordingly, there was a superintendent of instruction, a secretary-treasurer, auditor, a building commissioner, and a supply commissioner.

These arrangements for operating the St. Louis School System have continued for about three quarters of a century, though there have been reminders, at intervals, that changes were demanded.

Dr. C. H. Judd and his assistants, in Chicago University, made a survey of the St. Louis School System, in 1916, and reported that as long as there existed a cooperation as then prevailed, the lack of unification was not urgent, but should there come a time when cooperation was lacking, the schools would suffer thereby.

When the St. Louis School System was surveyed by George D. Strayer and his assistants from Columbia University, a recommendation was made that the administration of the system be unified by enacting a law whereby there should be a "Superintendent of Schools of St. Louis."

At a recent meeting of the Committee on School Buildings, a motion prevailed that steps be taken to put in operation this recommendation of the surveyors.

It is believed that the Board of Education will approve the report of the Committee on School Buildings. When this is done, the necessary legislation will be secured, and the administration of the St. Louis School System will be unified.

The St. Louis School System has been rated among the best of the city school systems of the nation. In recent years, there has been a lag in instruction. There has been no report to the effect that this lag has been overcome. As soon as Superintendent Hickey can arrive at the facts, the patrons should be informed concerning the present status of the schools.

There have been complaints about the status of schools for Negro children. The elementary schools for Negro children are over-crowded. The load of the teachers in these schools is too heavy. It is hoped that Superintendent Hickey will find, soon, better adjustments in these schools.

The Negro children of this city are not receiving the family training for which they have pressing needs. The religious training of these children is very ineffective. If the public school training lags, who will pay the price for this failure?

The situation in the Washington Technical High School has been investigated by the Mayor's Committee on Race Relations, and found unsatisfactory.

The failure to secure the approval of the North Central Association of Colleges and High Schools of Stowe Teachers' College is a matter of deep regret by the Negro people of this city. The responsibility for these situations are in the hands of Superintendent Hickey.

The public schools of this city have more to do in determining the future status of the Negro people in this community than any other institution.

REDMOND WILL FILE LAWSUITS

The Defender

By HOWARD WOODS

Sat 1-24-48

ST. LOUIS—St. Louis prepared anew this week to enter the fight for equal educational opportunities following a ringing challenge by Atty. Sidney R. Redmond, Republican Alderman, who advised "immediate application" to institutions of higher learning throughout the state.

Chicago, Ill.

Spurred on by the U. S. Supreme Court decision in the Ada Sipuel case in Oklahoma, civic leaders conferred earlier to map a course of action.

Redmond advocated lawsuits to be filed by Negro students for admission to the Hadley Technical High School here; the Medical School at the University of Missouri and the School of Mines and Metalurgy at Rolla.

The lawyer who was foremost in the famous Lloyd Gaines case in the state, pointed out that the expense of setting up and equipping the named schools was far too great and the state would be forced to open the doors of the higher institutions of learning to Negro students.

Redmond pointed out that the Mayor's Race Relations Commission had made a study of the Hadley School in relation to the Washington Technical High School for Negro students and he added that Washington in no way compared with Hadley.

FOR BETTER SCHOOLS

The Call

Fri 1-23-48

Kansas City, Mo.

ST. LOUIS.—(ANP) — Mayor Aloys P. Kaufmann told news men here last week that the St. Louis Board of Education should act to wipe out the inequalities in education for Negroes and whites in this city.

SUPERINTENDENT OF ST. LOUIS SCHOOLS

St. Louis Argus

Friday 1-16-48

In the evolution of the St. Louis School System, there came a time when it seemed wise to classify the service, and to appoint officials to direct and to manage each department.

The full service of the schools called for instruction, finance auditing, building, and supply. Accordingly, there was a superintendent of instruction, a secretary-treasurer, auditor, a building commissioner, and a supply commissioner.

These arrangements for operating the St. Louis School System have continued for about three quarters of a century, though there have been reminders, at intervals, that changes were demanded.

Dr. C. H. Judd and his assistants, in Chicago University, made a survey of the St. Louis School System, in 1916, and reported that as long as there existed a cooperation as then prevailed, the lack of unification was not urgent, but should there come a time when cooperation was lacking, the schools would suffer thereby.

When the St. Louis School System was surveyed by George D. Strayer and his assistants from Columbia University, a recommendation was made that the administration of the system be unified by enacting a law whereby there should be a "Superintendent of Schools of St. Louis."

At a recent meeting of the Committee on School Buildings, a motion prevailed that steps be taken to put in operation this recommendation of the surveyors.

It is believed that the Board of Education will approve the report of the Committee on School Buildings. When this is done, the necessary legislation will be secured, and the administration of the St. Louis School System will be unified.

St. Louis Mo.

The St. Louis School System has been rated among the best of the city school systems of the nation. In recent years, there has been a lag in instruction. There has been no report to the effect that this lag has been overcome. As soon as Superintendent Hickey can arrive at the facts, the patrons should be informed concerning the present status of the schools.

There have been complaints about the status of schools for Negro children. The elementary schools for Negro children are over-crowded. The load of the teachers in these schools is too heavy. It is hoped that Superintendent Hickey will find, soon, better adjustments in these schools.

Named Vice-President Shore Education Board

ATLANTIC CITY.—Dr. Stanley L. Lucas, for 20 years a member of the Atlantic City Board of Education, was elected its vice-president on Monday.

Dr. Lucas, who has also served for 20 years as assistant city health officer, has been a practicing physician for 30 years. He is a native of Kingston, Jamaica.

Racially Mixed Schools Off to Good Start in Jersey Town

14

FREEHOLD, N.J.—Racially mixed schools got off to a good start here last week when colored and white children attended classes together at the three grammar schools and high schools for the first time. This change from segregated schools followed the unanimous decision of the Board of Education last February.

The Board rules that pupils would attend the school nearest their home, regardless of race. Although there was no law to that effect, colored children had all attended Court Street School while white children had attended the three other schools.

Court Street School has now been closed and 140 of its pupils transferred to the other schools. "Adjustments have been made and classes started without any real problem," Lloyd S. Cassel, supervising principal, said.

SCHOOL IN JERSEY AIDS NEGRO YOUTHS

Times

Nov 11-21-48

Bordentown 'Exposes' Them to Trades and Skills While Promoting Self-Respect

14

By GEORGE STREATOR

New York N.Y.

Special to The New York Times.

BORDENTOWN, N. J., Nov. 20—The State of New Jersey Manual Training School, which last year dropped from its name the phrase "for Colored Youth" under the non-discrimination clause of the new state constitution, was pointed out today as the only boarding school for high school youth in this area and as one with a program "not always popular with parents who want their children to be 'a success!'"

The school, which is commonly spoken of merely as Bordentown, faces a crisis, "not of finances, but ideals and policies," according to William R. Valentine, its principal since 1915 and a graduate of Harvard and Columbia. He is not certain, he said, that the people of his state "have caught up with the Bordentown policy of fighting delinquency at the beginning, before the children have become involved in trouble, and setting their minds to work on wholesome ideas."

Mr. Valentine, who was a teacher in Indianapolis before coming to Bordentown in 1915, said that his 400 students were not "problem children although they have a-plenty of problems." He asked that the public consider the injustice done to children by sitting idly by until they had committed a wrong, then branding them as social outcasts and delinquents. His educational program is one primarily devoted to teaching by deed as much as by books, and to glorifying every achievement that would bring to a child a feeling of dignity and self-respect, he explained.

'Scars' of Struggle Noted

He said that Negro families in New Jersey, as elsewhere, had gone through a struggle for a place in the sun, and that the struggle had "left scars, chiefly the feeling that hard work was a punishment for being of a particular race." The children have been doubly hurt, he said, because their parents, usually the mother, pray that the son or daughter "will not work as hard as I."

Because of his faith in the industrial school, he said, many school teachers have called him out of step, "pointing to the new approaches to human ills." Mr. Valentine declared that there was no solution to the problem of making a living except to develop a skill for the young person. For that reason, he said, Bordentown has sought to "expose" a child to skills and trade, not to make an artisan out of him, but to acquaint him with the type of work that decent people can do to keep their self-respect.

14

School records show that Bordentown was founded in 1866 by the Rev. W. A. Rice, a minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The school encountered early financial difficulties, and the State of New Jersey came to the aid with small donations and finally took the school into the state educational system in 1897. In 1945, the school was placed under the State Board of Education. It is valued at nearly $2,500,000, and owns 400 acres of choice land on a high bluff overlooking the Delaware River.

Nov 11-21-48

Bordentown was planned as an industrial school and has hewed to the line, Mr. Valentine said. Its students are now restricted to the residents of the state, but there are 1,500 applicants each year, and a reunion of its graduates and former students is a yearly event that, before the war, brought more than 5,000 persons to the campus on alumni day.

More than half the students of Bordentown come from broken homes, but the children are not court charges, nor under surveillance. The school leaders declared that they have always tried to bring to the school children "who are capable of being saved when they are just on the brink of disaster." The mothers of the pupils, more frequently than the fathers, are their sole support. The parents are as often natives of New Jersey as of the South.

The Bordentown curriculum covers the grades from the eighth to the twelfth. About 60 per cent of the students are male. Their dormitories are modern, although no building has been constructed in fifteen years. This school, like all others in that state, has suffered from a sparing spending policy in building construction, Mr. Valentine said.

Nov 11-21-48

The school awards an "A" certificate to students who have not planned for college, and a "B" diploma to those who have been able to comply with college requirements. The majority of the boys have found their way into industry, having been "exposed" to woodwork, printing, auto mechanics, barbering, painting and upholstery. The girls have prepared for beauty culture and cooking. Many of the graduates of the school have been successful in their own businesses, Mr. Valentine said.

Several of the girls have entered the New York dress-making industry. One of the graduates, Mrs. Maidie Stewart Springer, is an executive of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, AFL, and a teacher of workers' education.

James W. Johnson, Collector of Internal Revenue, Third New York District, is also a graduate. Former teachers include Lester B. Granger of the Urban League and William H. Hastie, Governor of the Virgin Islands.

Segregation in Schools To Be Ended in Camden

Special to the Herald Tribune

CAMDEN, N. J., Aug. 19.—Dr. Ethan A. Lang, president of the Camden Board of Education, announced today that all segregation in the city schools will end with the term beginning in September, in conformity with the new state constitution.

Camden heretofore has had six grammar schools attended by Negroes only. The city has been redistricted to eliminate overlapping districts, two of the Negro school will be closed, and all children will be required to attend the school in their district.

14

School Board Urged to Act on Youthbuilders

Herald Tribune
New York, N.Y.
Sat. 7-24-48

Church and Negro Leaders Protest Delay in Choice of Man to Set Up Clubs

14 N.Y.

The Board of Education heard Protestant, Jewish and Negro leaders protest Thursday against an unexplained six-month delay in naming a man to direct New York school children and teachers in Youthbuilders Clubs. The clubs carry on citizenship and inter-group activities.

Dr. William Jansen, Superintendent of Schools, has twice recommended a man for the position, and twice the Board of Estimate has put up a $5,400 salary, it was said, but a three-man Board of Education committee has held the name since October and meanwhile has launched an inquiry into the program the man was to run.

The question came up Thursday by an unusual procedure. Maximilian Moss, acting chairman of the board, put it on the agenda of a public meeting at 110 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, thus by-passing the committeemen who were accused of holding up the name.

Indorsed by Churches

The Youthbuilders program is "unanimously and heartily" indorsed by the Protestant Council's human relations commission with the Right Rev. Charles K. Gilbert, Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New York, as its active chairman, it was said Thursday by Dr. Robert W. Searle, council director. He added that the commission has made a thorough study of the program. 7-24-48

Five members of the school board, including two of the three committee members, heard the speakers without comment. Later, Dr. Jansen told reporters that the Board of Superintendents, nine ranking officials of the school system, requested looking into the relation of the Youthbuilder program to the remainder of the course of study. It will be looked into, he added, but that cannot be done until September.

Other speakers were Rabbi Harold H. Gordon, director of the Board of Rabbis, which includes Orthodox, Reformed and Conservative rabbis, who termed the delay "incomprehensible," and "reneging" and Mrs. Ruby Hurley, representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Candidate Certified for Job

David Seiferheld, a director of Youthbuilders, said that the candidate for the position, Alex H. Lazes, was named acting director in the spring of 1947 and was certified for the position by the Board of Examiners. In March Mr. Lazes was called in for an interview by the Board of Education's committee on instructional affairs, which passes on such appointments before they go to the full board. The committee dismissed the candidate without an interview and "requested a report or survey on the Youthbuilder program," according to Mr. Seiferheld.

7-24-48
Herald Tribune

"We might ask whether, in the case of appointments of principals, the committee on instructional affairs finds it necessary to survey each of the schools involved before passing on candidates for principalships," Mr. Seiferheld added. 7-24-48

The committee is composed of James Marshall and George A. Timone, Manhattan board members, and Harold C. Dean, Queens member, none of whom was available for comment Thursday night.

Youthbuilders, started on an experimental basis ten years ago and now running in 100 schools, is an interracial and interdenominational group. Various activities, from putting a stop to neighborhood window breaking to interviewing prominent persons about social problems, are carried on with the aim of developing citizenship and character. 7-24-48

The Board of Education's first Negro member in eighteen years, the Rev. John Coleman, of Brooklyn, appointed Wednesday, attended the meeting and said, after being welcomed by Mr. Moss, that h would work to improve education "for all, regardless of any particular strain." Sat.

Ask Education Board To Retain Courses on Interracial Education

The Black Dispatch

[illegible] — (ANP) Several organizations and individuals who became alarmed over the cutting out of two courses dealing with intercultural education by William E. Jansen, superintendent of schools, met at Freedom house last week to voice their dissent.

Oklahoma, Okla.

Leaders of the group were of the opinion that a strong program against bigotry is extremely essential at this time and want it stressed that the board "not yield to forces or influences against intercultural education."

1-3-48-Sat.

The problem arose when a course on Soviet Russia taught by an eminent authority in the field and one on intercultural education were cancelled by Dr. Jansen.

Oklahoma

The National Council of Negro women, the Urban League of Greater New York and American Jewish congress are among the 12 organizations working for tolerance who drafted a letter to the board of superintendents.

MAYOR PUTS NEGRO IN EDUCATION POST

The Times
New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 7-22-48

Coleman First Member of Race to Be Member of Board in the Last 30 Years

14 N.Y.

The first Negro member of the Board of Education in thirty years was appointed yesterday when Mayor O'Dwyer named the Rev. John M. Coleman, rector of St. Philip's Protestant Episcopal Church of Brooklyn, to serve a full seven-year term.

Mr. Coleman, who has been a member of the Board of Higher Education since March, 1946, was sworn into the unsalaried post by the Mayor in a brief ceremony at City Hall. Among the school officials who were present were Maximilian Moss of Brooklyn, acting president of the Board of Education, and Dr. William Jansen, Superintendent of Schools. The Negro clergyman succeeds Joseph D. Fackenthal, former vice president of the board, whose term as a Brooklyn representative expired last May.

With yesterday's appointment, the Mayor raised the board's membership to seven and thus made possible a quorum of five members for the meeting of the education heads scheduled to take place at 4 P. M. today in the school headquarters building, 110 Livingston Street, Brooklyn. Two members, Andrew G. Clauson Jr. of Richmond, president, and Harold C. Dean of Queens, are on vacation.

Increased to Nine Members

The Times

Under a new state law that became effective July 1, the board's size was increased from seven to nine members. Representatives for the two new positions created by the Legislature, one of them to be filled by a resident of the Bronx and the other by one from Queens, still have to be named by the Mayor. When he does this, the Education Board will have two members from each borough except Richmond, which will continue with one representative.

Before the ceremony for Mr. Coleman took place at 2 P. M. yesterday, the Mayor's office announced that Mr. O'Dwyer also would swear in Vito F. Lanza of 32-91 Thirty-eighth Street, Long Island City, as the second board member from Queens. It was announced later, however, that this ceremony had been postponed. No reason was offered.

Mr. Coleman, who was born Nov. 25, 1901, at Blackstone, Va., was ordained to the priesthood of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Long Island in 1932 by Bishop Ernest Milmore Stires. He became rector of St. Philip's Church, one of the largest Negro congregations in Brooklyn, the following year.

New York, N.Y.

Founder of Stuyvesant Center

In 1943 Mr. Coleman became the first Negro to be appointed to the execuitve board of the National Council of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew in the Prostestant Episcopal Church. He is a founder and member of the board of directors of the Stuyvesant Community Center of Brooklyn, which serves some 60,000 Negroes. He is a member of numerous social welfare groups. Thurs.

Mr. Coleman is married and lives with his wife and five children at 265 Decatur Street, Brooklyn.

The last time the Board of Education had a Negro member was in 1917 when Mayor John P. Mitchel appointed Dr. Eugene P. Roberts for a five-year term to the board, which then had forty-six members. Dr. Roberts, a 79-year-old surgeon, who lives at 130 West 130th Street, served only one year, however, because the Legislature in 1918 reduced the size of the board to seven members. Prior to 1917, before the city education system was consolidated, the Brooklyn school board had three Negro members who served at various times. 7-22-48

Mayor O'Dwyer also reappointed yesterday Charles H. Tuttle to a new nine-year term as a member of the Board of Higher Education.

REPRESENTATION ON N.Y. SCHOOL BOARD ASKED

BROOKLYN [illegible] — Mayor O'Dwyer was again urged last week to appoint a colored person to the Board of Education to succeed Joseph D. Fackenthal of Brooklyn, board vice president, whose term expires in May.

Sat. 1-3-48

Schools Fail To Teach Democracy Charged

Birmingham News
Birmingham, Ala.

BY SUE MELLETT

HEMSTEAD, L. I., Aug. 3—(WNNS) — Schools today confuse the average youngster by preaching democracy but without giving him a chance to practice it, a new report of a study in 15 education centers here charges.

14

Nothing could be more destructive than the split between talked of democratic ideology and daily experience, the report holds. Because of this split, it was found, prejudice is reinforced and cynicism about democratic processes develops in young children, at the very moment schools are trying to teach tolerance and democratic ideals. Tue. 8-3-48

The study was by the Nassau County Mental Hygiene Preparatory Commission, as one of a great many mental health reports being prepared all over the world for the coming International Congress on Mental Health.

The Congress, at which specialists from nearly every country will meet in London, will use reports as working materials.

But in addition, reports such as this one on the function of education in our schools in relation to prejudice may have concrete effects in any number of communities. The report of this commission, headed by Mrs. Nathaniel Robin, of Hempstead, will be presented this Fall to the Nassau County Women's Forum. 8-3-48

There, clubwomen of the county will use it as basis of a human relations course, and will study their own children's schools in light of its conclusions. The result may be enough local pressure from parents to change some school practices—probably through eliminating some classes rather than adding to the curriculum.

* * *

AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE SPLIT between democracy as taught and as practiced in schools, the commission reported student councils are formed as result of civics study. But the children are likely to say, "Yes, we have a student council, but we never decide or discuss anything of real importance." Tue. 8-3-48

One problem, which arose because some students kept telling a Negro child she didn't belong in that school, was ignored—not referred to the student council. Another problem, when students waylaid Negro youngsters on their way home from school, was handled directly by the principal—not council. 8-3-48

Thus, the commission concluded, "cynicism about democratic processes and institutions begins long before the voting age. The form of democracy without the living experience is both fatal for democracy as well as for mental health."

Too often, the report continues, schools teach children what to think instead of how to think. They justify this by saying they can't offend the community's notion of the aim of education.

CP Asks Mayor Name Negro to School Board

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
Thurs. 5-6-48
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14

Mayor William O'Dwyer was called upon yesterday by the New York State Communist Party to appoint a Negro to the vacancy on the Board of Education.

A wire to the Mayor made public by Robert Thompson, chairman of the organization, stated:

"Discrimination and prejudice have too long been a feature of our city's school system. Lack of representation of Negro people on Board of Education is shameful denial of democracy which undermines democratic education of all children. Appointment of Negro will strengthen fight against racial and religious prejudice. Communist Party of New York State urges appointment of Negro to Brooklyn vacancy immediately." 5-6-48

Harlem Teachers Not Meeting Pupil Needs, Charged

The Black Dispatch
Oklahoma, Oklahoma
14
Sat. 5-15-48

NEW YORK — (ANP) — A recent report made by the Joint Advisory committee of the Harlem project brought to light the fact that teachers in Harlem schools are "not only unaware of the crying needs of their pupils, but many are bitter about even being in the Harlem area." The report, which took up 235 pages, dealt with a two-year survey of three selected Harlem schools.

The project was financed by a grant of $125,000 from the New York and Hofheimer foundations, and received supplies and services from the board of education. Dr. Sophie M. Robinson was in charge of the program. 5-15-48

The experiment was to ascertain the import of the mental hygiene approach in the school and how well it works with retarded youngsters as well as those emotionally maladjusted. Crux of the findings were that the board of education must change its present examining methods for selecting teachers so that only those interested in the children as human beings will be accepted.

The report pointed out that many of the teachers in the school hit and push children around. The highest delinquency rate was found in Public School 120, a junior high for boys.

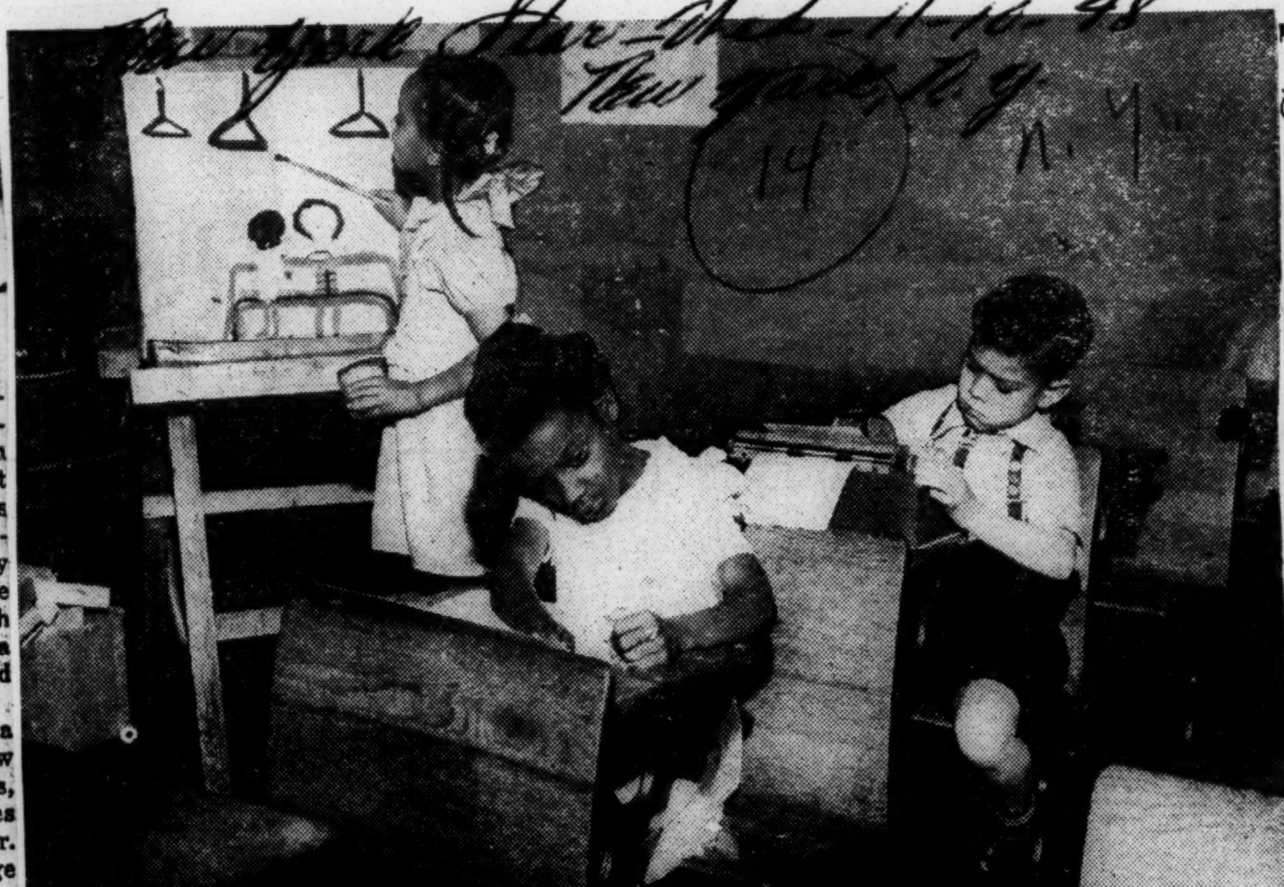
In addition, the committee fund that probationary schools for girls were totally unnecessary. Most important observation was the early recognition of maladjusted problems and the correction of behavior problems in elementary grades before the children reach high school.

It was pointed out that the role of the school in underprivileged areas should be extended, classes reduced, more adequate up-to-date equipment secured so that a social worker, psychiatrist, and health services could be supplied; and the bureau of child guidance expanded.

Dr. Channing H. Tobias and Judge Hubert T. Delaney were the only Negro members of the eight-man committee.

N.Y. Star 11-10-48
New York, N.Y.

Because their own property is limited, these children need to "see, feel, taste, weigh, measure."


New York Star - Wed - 11-10-48
New York, N.Y.
14
N.Y.

In an experiment in three Harlem schools, youngsters from low-income homes get a chance for play and experiences missed in and out of school hours. Art work and music become a release for tension; toys replace personal possessions. Here Octavia Clement is at the easel, Nathaniel Boozer at the typewriter, Barbara Weems in foreground.

STAR Photos by Morris Gordon

Harlem Pupils at Home in School

14

By Myril Axelrod

New York Star
New York, N.Y.

The school can step in and fill the gap in the lives of youngsters from poor, overcrowded, deprived and disturbed homes, experience in three Harlem schools has shown.

A three-year study of first and second grade children who were found to be missing "essential childhood experiences" shows that a revised course of study and carefully planned classroom surroundings can help "emotionally undernourished" children.

Wed 11-10-48

According to Superintendent of Schools William Jansen, who yesterday made public the results of the Board of Education experiment in Harlem schools, the program worked well in the experiment. It will be applied to other schools.

Routines Changed

In the Harlem experiment, traditional first grade subjects like book reading were completely set aside and replaced with almost a full day of practical and timely experiences.

It was necessary for the children, who had few or no personal possessions, to learn "about the physical properties of things they could feel, taste, see, weigh, and measure." They were allowed to "explore, handle, and observe as long as they wished."

Even the physical surroundings of the classrooms—all of them in buildings built around the beginning of the century—were adjusted to the program.

Conventional seats and desks were removed in sections of each classroom to make roomy play areas for youngsters who had no expansion room at home.

Unselfishness Taught

Toys, pets, games—things to take the place of personal possessions—were added to the school's equipment wherever finances would allow. Many of the playthings were contsructed by teachers or older pupils. All of them were made available to the children without restriction.

Instead of toys being locked up in closets, the doors of the chests were removed to put equipment within easy reach. A youngster was free to borrow any of the materials whenever he wanted them. He began to feel each toy was his own—yet he learned to share them with others too.

Free play gave teachers an opportunity to observe individual adjustment problems but it also proved that even the youngest children can work independently and direct their own living. Teachers moved their desks from the front of the room, mingled with the group, developed a warm, informal atmosphere. The new arrangement permitted management of their own affairs to develop in the children.

Learn of New Foods

Courses like cooking, never before used in the first grade, were introduced to establish a link between the school and the home. Children developed household concepts, learned desirable health habits. They began to recognize and like foods that were not known in their homes.

There was no pressure on these children—at least 60 per cent of them from non-English-speaking homes—to read from books. Instead reading was made more meaningful by being related to all individual experiences. It was identified with property and with people.

Wed 11-10-48

Children who spoke no English when they came to the school learned to identify toys with which they played, the names of art materials, the tools they used in manual arts.

N.C. Parents' Suit Asks Equal School Facilities

Afro American
Sat. 9-12-48
Baltimore, Md.

City, County Officials Charged With Maintaining 'Fire-Trap' for Pupils

RALEIGH, N.C.—Three parents filed a petition in the U.S. District Court here last Thursday against school officials in the city of Lumberton and Robeson county charging them with failure to provide equal educational facilities for the plaintiffs' 12 children.

The parents, who asked that an injunction be granted restraining the school officials from maintaining schools for colored children which are inferior to those maintained for whites, are:

Plaintiffs and Defendants

Lawrence S. Stephens, parent of Waldean and Verdell Stephens; Sam Bullock, parents of James Samuel and Margaret Ann Bullock; and Mrs. Bessie Thompson, parent of Addie Mae, Lue Frances, Annie Lee, Carean, Mildred Elizabeth, Sherman Jr., David and Mary Jane Thompson.

The defendants are the board of graded school trustees, Lumberton (also known as board of trustees of Lumberton City Administrative unit); and C.A. Hasty, V.J. Griffin, J.D. Herring, J. Talmadge Graham, N.A. Smith and R.A. McQueen, members of the board of commissioners of Robeson county.

Buildings Condemmed

The complaint charges specfically that: "The facilities, physical condition, sanitation and protections from the elements at Red Stone Academy and Thompson elementary school are patently inadequate and unhealthy.

"The schools are overcrowded, in extremely dilapidated condition and dangerous state of disrepair, and are veritable fire-traps, having been condemned on several recent occasions by public officials as constituting a serious threat to life and limbs of colored children in attendance."

"The Call of the Cumberlands"; "Love Letters of a Worldly Woman"; "Hungerian - Celebrities, Lon- 1851"; 10 volumes of the Bell Telephone Quarterly; dozen of old German novels and technical books, dated in the 1800s—although the school has no language courses whatsoever.

In Center of City

The King George County Hight School (for whites, grades 1 to 12) is in the center of this city, occupying a stucco building dating from 1823, and a brick building completed in 1939 with Public Works Administration funds.

The school has 19 teachers, in addition to Principal William L. Smith, jr., and an enrollment of about 500. (There are also two small elementary schools in the county for white students, and two one-room elementary schools for Negroes.)

In the white high schools are regular toilet facilities, central heating, and showers, plus a combination auditorium-gymnasum in the brick building, telephones, etc.

Workmen yesterday were painting sections of the brick building, where the high school classes are held, and remodeling the stucco building to make rom for two more classrooms and a library by eliminating about half the auditorium there.

News 9-9-48

Smith said the school plant in past years has been so crowded that classes have been held in the basement.

In what Webb described as a "complete surprise to me," Smith yesterday was named supervising principal of both the Negro and white "high schools."

Asked the reason for this Superintendent Gayle said that "with the addition of a commercial course at the Negro school, they need more supervision there; they need help. It's a better administrative setup."

Gayle said the move involves no salary changes. He said Webb is employed on a nine-month basis and receives $1900 a year. Smith, employed on a 12-month basis, gets $3600 a year, said Gayle.

Two teachers under Webb actually receive far more than their principal. The Negro economics teacher receives $2280 a year, and the agriculture teacher $2620 a year, said Gayle, because part of their pay comes from Federal funds under the Smith-Lever Act.

"You must remember," said Gayle, "that King George is a very poor county—it's total assessment is only $2,200,000. The school tax rate of $1 per thousand produces only $22.000 and the county board of supervisors gives the schools $17,000 a year from liquor license funds. That gives us $39,000 from local sources to run the county's schools. Last year the total school budget was $143,000.

"You just can't run a school system properly with such funds."

Carolina Negro teachers better educated, better paid, than whites

Los Angeles Tribune

RALEIGH, N. C. — North Carolina's 7,407 Negro teachers and principals are, on the whole, better educated and receive higher pay than the state's 18,915 white teachers and principals. 6-19-48

This unusual fact came to light last week after Virginius Dabney, venerable editor of the Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch, had included the following statement in a speech before the American Society of Newspaper Editors: "Last year North Carolina paid Negro school teachers more on the average than its white teachers. The average salary for the colored teachers was $51 a year more than the white teachers throughout the state because they were better trained. The southern press does not object to this at all."

Clyde A. Erwin, state superintendent of public instruction, was questioned, and it developed that Mr. Dabney was quoting almost verbatim from a paragraph to that effect in the North Carolina Public School Bulletin for October, 1947. According to these latest available statistics, Negro teachers averaged $1,681.51 and white teachers, $1,630.56, during the 1946-47 school year. Broken down into elementary, high school, and principal classifications, the Negro pedagogues led in wages in all classifications except for high school principal, where whites averaged slightly more. 6-17-48

Six thousand, Seven hundred-eighty of the Negro teachers have college degrees, while the remainder have either normal school or high school degrees. Among the whites, 14,336 have college degrees.

Figures on the salaries of college teachers were not available for comparison.

Journal + Guide

A NEW development in the movement to modify the segregation pattern in southern public education appeared in North Carolina, recently. It was a development that could occur in few states other than North Carolina, for it involved not Negroes, but another racial minority—American Indians.

North Carolina is probably the only state in the southeast which has not a dual, but triple education system, or at least the triple set-up exists in certain parts of the state. In Robeson and perhaps some adjacent counties there are three sets of schools: for whites, Negroes and Indians, respectively. In the town of Pembroke is located the capstone of North Carolina's system for the third race, Pembroke State College for Indians.

Norfolk, Va.

Recently the president of this college has asked that its graduates be made eligible for admission to the graduate school of the University of North Carolina, calling on the General Assembly to amend the statute providing separate educational facilities for Indians. The president of Pembroke, Dr. R. D. Wellons, pointed out that the law calling for educational segregation on Indians made no provision for their post graduate education, and it is on this basis that he asks admission of Indian college graduaes to the State University. Sat. 3-13-48

Charlotte Negroes Enter School Suit

The Courier

Sat 10-16-48

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—A delegation from the local branch NAACP filed a petition with the Charlotte School Board citing alleged discriminatory conditions in Charlotte school operations and asking immediate steps to provide equal facilities and instruction.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The lack of separate junior high schools for Negroes was one of the complaints filed in the petition, which was brought to the board by Atty. J. S. Bowser, chairman, legal committee of the North Carolina State Conference of NAACP Branches.

Kelly M. Alexander, executive secretary of the Charlotte Branch, NAACP and president of the North Carolina State Conference of NAACP Branches and Jacob Thompson, recording secretary of the Charlotte Branch.

CURRICULA UNEQUAL

The allegation also charged that the basic curricula is "unequal" in that some courses are offered to white children and denied to Negro children such as: machine shop, auto mechanics, Spanish, Latin and printing.

School commissioners and administrators contended that everything is being done to provide equal educational opportunities for Negroes in Charlotte and those courses which are not offered in Negro schools would be offered if there was sufficient demand to form a class in any of them.

Sat 10-16-48

The petition was signed by parents, citizens, civic, religious and fraternal organizations, residents and taxpayers of the city of Charlotte.

Suit in N.C. Town Asks for Equal Schools

Afro American

Sat 10-16-48

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—A delegation from the local NAACP on Sept. 27 filed a petition with the Charlotte School Board citing racial discriminatory conditions in local school operations and asking that immediate steps be taken to provide equal facilities and instruction.

Baltimore, Md.

The lack of separate junior high schools for colored pupils was one of the complaints filed in the petition, which was brought to the board by J. S. Bowser, attorney and legal committee of the North Carolina NAACP's Kelly M. Alexander, NAACP executive secretary and president of the North Carolina Conference of NAACP Branches; and Jacob Thompson, NAACP recording secretary.

The allegation also charged that the basic curricula is "unequal" in that some courses are offered to white children and denied to colored children such as machine shop, auto mechanics, Spanish, Latin and printing.

School Equality in N.C. Pledged

Afro American

Baltimore, Md.

RALEIGH, N.C. — Governor-Elect Kerr Scott, speaking here last week, stressed the need for bringing colored and Indian schools up to the level of the white ones and paid tribute to the minority races for the way their members rallied this fall behind the National and State governments. Sat. 11-27-48

"I want to see to it that the colored and Indian institutions of learning are given the same consideration as the white ones," he told some 150 school superintendents at the North Carolina Education Association's session, adding, "If you're honest with yourselves, you'll agree they aren't right now."

Discouraging the State Board of Education's bid for $50,000,000 to help counties to construct new schools, he pointed out that first the State must provide adequate facilities for the mentally ill, for tubercular patients and improve its roads to provide good school bus service.

11-27-48

Interracial Nursery Fights Bias

[illegible] Sat 8-21-48

LAWRENCE, Kan.—(ANP)—If education is better than legislation for ending racial discrimination, twenty-one Lawrence youngsters are getting an early start on the problem.

Pittsburgh Pa.

Skin color is no more important to these two-to-five-year-olds than the colors of the blocks their mothers made from scraps of two-by-four lumber. The question more likely to come up, as they stack red, blue, green and yellow walls, is who gets to sit in the make-believe house first.

The project is the Lawrence Mothers 'Cooperative Nursery in the Baptist Annex. It started with a group of mothers who took a course in child development and pre-school play taught by Mrs. Robert G. Foster for the University of Kansas Extension Division.

Sat 8-21-48

"Although cooperative nurseries are not new, this is probably the only interracial one in the country," says Mrs. Anthony Smith, also a teacher of child development at the university, who helped originate the plan.

Catholic and Jewish children represent other minority groups belonging to the organization.

First Interracial Nursery in St. Louis To Open 1st of June

[illegible] Dispatch

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — St. Louis first interracial nursery school, the Nursery foundation of St. Louis, will open June 1. Mrs. Clotild Ferguson, a graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social work, will be the director.

Sat 5-29-48

Okla City, Okla

The nursery was developed from a plan originated by Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman. More than 300 citizens have joined the foundation and provided funds to operate the nursery for one year.

5-29-48

FIRST INTERRACIAL NURSERY IN ST. LOUIS TO OPEN JUNE 1

Journal - Guide

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — (ANP)—St. Louis' first interracial nursery school, the Nursery Foundation of St. Louis, will open June 1. Mrs. Clotild Ferguson, a graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, will be the director.

Sat 5-29-48

The nursery was developed from a plan originated by Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman. More than 300 citizens have joined the foundation and provided funds to operate the nursery for one year.

5-29-48

Wealthy Texan Bequeaths $150,000 for Day Nursery

Pittsburgh Courier

Sat 11-27-48 — Pittsburgh Pa.

PARIS, Tex.—The will of George Guest, wealthy leader who died here Nov. 1, provides funds to build and maintain in Paris a day nursery for Negro children. Under terms of the will practically all of the estate—estimated at nearly $150,000—eventually will go into the nursery fund.

Mr. Guest was born a slave in Red River County, Tex., about eighty-five years ago. He amassed his fortune from a funeral parlor which he operated here for many years and from other businesses.

The will filed for probate in Lamar County, Tex., last week is a joint instrument signed by Mr. Guest and his wife, Adalanta L. Guest, who survives him. It provides a cash sum of $10,000 to go to the King's Daughters organization here for the purpose of constructing and equipping the nursery. The will specifies the name of the nursery shall be "George M. and Adalanta L. Guest Day Nursery."

PLAN ENLARGEMENT

The joint document further provides that after the death of Adalanta L. Guest the net income of George Guest's share of the estate then goes into a fund for possible enlargement of the nursery, additional equipment and maintenance.

At Adalanta L. Guest's death the will provides that her share of the estate goes into a trust fund with the income going to her two sisters, Adlissa V. West of Dallas, Tex., and Adlena C. Franklin, Chicago. At their death, this share also goes into the nursery fund.

GEORGE GUEST
. . . *Remembered day nursery*

The will bequeathed $1,000 to Guest's son by a former marriage, Littleton Guest, Los Angeles, Calif.; $1,000 to Marshall Fulbright, Los Angeles, nephew; $1,000 to Nina Fulbright, Los Angeles, niece, and $500 to Walter Thompson, Paris.

Sat 11-27-48

The will stipulates that if any beneficiary contests the document, that beneficiary will get nothing. The will was dated June 3, 1948.

In making the bequest for the nursery, the will stated the purpose was "to improve the health and raise the standard of citizenship by assisting the neediest and most helpless of the Negro population of our town."

Story Of How Co-Op Nursery Battles Prejudice Narrated

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

BY ALMADA B. BARRETT

LAWRENCE, Kan. —(ANP)— If education is better than legislation in ending racial discrimination, 21 Lawrence youngsters are getting an early start on the problem.

Skin color is no more important to these two-to-five-year-olds than the colors of the blocks their mothers made from scraps of two-by-four lumber. The question more likely to come up, as they stack red, blue, green and yellow walls, is who gets to sit in the make-believe house first.

Tues 8-25-48

The project is the Lawrence Mothers' Cooperative nursery in the Baptist annex. It started with a group of mothers who took a course in child development and pre-school play taught by Mrs. Robert G. Foster for the University of Kansas extension division.

"Although cooperative nurseries are not new, this is probably the only interracial one in the country," says Mrs. Anthony Smith, also a teacher of child development at the university, who helped originate the plan.

Catholic and Jewish children represent other minority groups belonging to the organization. To keep the plan from narrowing to one race or group, the mothers who founded the nursery pulicized it in each of their various special-interest groups. The Lawrence League for the Practice fo Democracy, and interracial organization, has worked with the nursery project as an unofficial sponsor.

Although everyone is welcome, prospective members must meet several qualifications.

First, the mother must take Mrs. Foster's course or, as an alternative, read and report on two child care books suggested by the members.

"We assign different books to each applicant so we can benefit too," explained Mrs. Russell Carter, one of the founders.

8-25-48

After the mother has passed her entrance examination, her children may have to wait for admittance, in order to keep a fair balance between ages and sexes. Six names are on the waiting list now.

The cost for each child is one morning a week of the mother's time and $1 to pay for rent and orange juice. Neighbors share transportation.

The project began April 19, for a trial period. It worked so well that the church board recently extended the lease.

Little tables, chairs, a sandpile and other equipment were lent or given by the University of Kansas nursery, Haskell Indian Institute, and private donors. One father made a broad, sturdy slide from old packing material.

While some of the mothers on duty are reading to small groups just before school is out each day, the others dust and tidy the playrooms. Every month they meet at night to scrub and wax the floors, repair toys, and discuss problems familiar to all parents. The woman feel that they as well as the children are getting a great deal of education in this school.

When the Freedom Train stopped in Lawrence, the nursery cooperated with the LLPD in furnishing free care to children too young to wait in line with their parents. There is more than one way, members think, of showing that "all men are created equal."

Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman Was Guiding Spirit In New Project

St. Louis Argus. St. Louis, Mo

Fri. 5-14-48

To Help Working Mothers

On June 1 forty-five young mothers in St. Louis will be happier women and better workers because, more than a year ago, one man took the trouble to learn that nursery facilities for their children were almost non-existent The Nursery Foundation of St. Louis, an inter-racial nursery school for children of working mothers, is now accepting enrollments for its school at 4950 Fountain avenue.

Fri 5-14-48

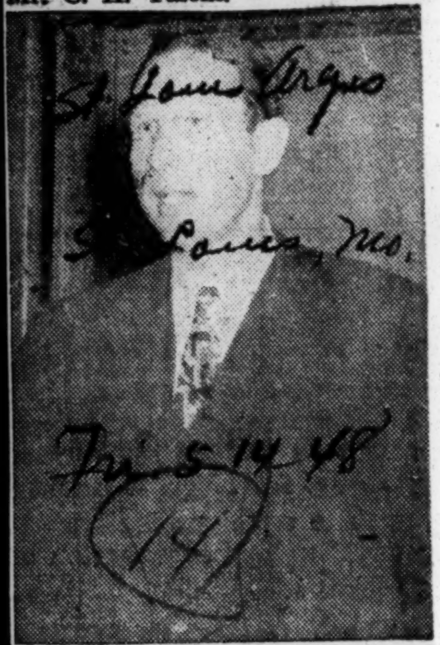
The plan for the Nursery Foundation originated with Ferdinand M. Isserman, Rabbi of Temple Israel. A group consisting of Christians, Jews and Negroes was formed for the purpose of raising money, securing a suitable location and, once preliminaries were completed, administering the foundation. The nursery school is located in a neighborhood where it will primarily benefit Negro children.

St. Louisans interested in the projected work of the Nursery Foundation—there ae now more than 300 members—contributed funds sufficient to establish and maintain the nursery for one year.

After considerable research and with help from the Social Planning Council of St. Louis, quarters conforming with building, fire and health regulations were secured in the Centennial Christian Church at 4950 Fountain avenue.

Mrs. Clotild Ferguson has been engaged as director of the nursery and is now interviewing mothers who are desirous of placing their children in the nursery's care. Mrs. Ferguson is a graduate of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, has had graduate courses at Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, and graduate work in Nursery Edlcation at the Institute of Child Study in Toronto. She has organized nursery schools in New Jersey and served as Division at Flanner House in Indianapolis. She was brought here from San Francisco where she organized Community Service for the American Society of Friends.

Officers and Board of Directors of the Nursery Foundation are Mrs. Herbert S. Schiele, President; Mrs. Morton D. May, Vice President; Mrs. Louis Renard, Vice President; Mrs. H. R. Duhme, Jr., Vice President; Mr. Lawton Levy, Treasurer; Mr. E. R. Samuels, Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Ernest Stein, Secretary; Mr. J. A. Scott, Assistant Secretary; Mr. Sylvan Agatstein, Mr. J. Arthur Baer. Mrs. Russell Doyle, Mrs. Irving Edison, Mrs. Leona Evans, Mrs. Arthur Fihn, Mrs Clark Fitzgerald, Dr. James Goodfriend, Mr. Maurice L. Hirsch, Dr. Ferdinand M. Isserman, Mrs. Daxid Knox, Mrs. David Kriegshaber, Mrs. Landon Martin, Mr. Louis Renard, Mr. Chester Stovall, Miss Jennie Wahlert, Mr. C. H. Yalem.



St. Louis Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

Fri. 5 14 48

(14)

RABBI FERDINAND ISSERMAN

Vote "Yes" For the One Mill Levy

(14)

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City

The Oklahoma Association of Negro Teachers is in an all-out struggle this week, seeking to pass a constitutional amendment July 6, which if it meets favor of the voters will provide an extra "unrestricted" mill levy for separate schools of the state. While the Black Dispatch is opposed to separate schools and is doing everything possible to abolish them as a state pattern, the effort of the teachers is a realistic approach to current needs. Separate schools are a current fact while what we have in mind is a program to be realized at some future date. A poor man must eat and wear pants while he chases the rainbow of fortune, and so it is we should attempt to make the most of the sorry jim crow educational set-up we have in Oklahoma so long as it is inflicted upon us.

In their fight for this additional mill. the teachers have reached deep into their financial pockets to put on an aggressive campaign that should have reached out to the grass roots. Every school patron should by this time be fully advised as to the issues joined in this constitutional proposal, and in addition he should have full knowledge of the responsibility he sustains to the passage of this amendment to the state constitution.

Sat, 7-3-48

The first thing you should do following reading these lines is to consult your registrar to determine whether you are actually qualified to vote July 6. Even though you may have a registration certificate in your pocket it could in a number of ways be worthless. You should not rely upon its value until after you have consulted your registrar.

For instance, if you failed to vote in the last three elections your certificate is worthless and your name has been erased from the poll list. If your precinct lines have been changed or if you have moved from the precinct where you last voted your certificate is not worth the paper it is written on until it has been validated. That is to say, you must go to the registrar and secure another registration certificate. If you have once voted you may renew your registration certificate up to and including the day of election. But why put this important matter off. Why not make sure you are eligible to vote today?

7-3-48

Negro teachers are poorly paid in Oklahoma. In some counties, even a wealthy county such as Oklahoma county, the present three-mill levy is not sufficient to provide adequate salaries for Negro teachers. The NAACP has a suit in federal court at the present to compel the Oklahoma City school board to equalize teachers salaries.

But even if the court should rule that the Negro teachers' salaries must be identical and the same as that of the whites, the present levy for separate schools will not provide sufficient funds. To get the extra one mill across as a constitutional amendment will just about take care of the salary question in the secondary schools, and your vote should be counted next July 6 in affirmation of this issue. Assume your individual responsibility now by qualifying to vote and then follow this action through with your presence at the polls on the day of election. Action or inaction on your part may win or lose this important measure for the Negro schools of the state.

To Have One Of Nation's Finest Systems by 1952

Black Dispatch
Sat 8-28-48

(14)

Two Bond Issues Approved By Voters For Negro Education

Okla City, Okla

TULSA. — "One of the finest systems in the nation with facilities equal to those of white public schools in this section," is the long range plan of the Tulsa city school system it was announced here last week with the statement that a total of $1,915,600.00 is presently available for immediate expenditure in the separate system.

The near 2 million dollars represents the county bond issue of 1945 which passed overwhelmingly for $997,600 and $918,000.00 provided in the recent July 27 bond issue approved by a 4-to-1 vote.

The major improvement project will be the new high school, which contract is expected to be let in November. It is estimated that completion will not be realized until the term of 1952.

An estimated $1,500,000.00 is allotted for the new Booker T. Washington Hi including land purchase for the site. Other improvements earmarked from the near two million dollar separate school fund are:

Negro high school and elementary school, Sand Springs, $35,000; central heating and improved lighting at Dunbar and Booker T. Washington Elementary Schools; new equipment for a new Dunbar cafeteria and new equipment for a new auditorium, shop classrooms and improved lighting at Carver Junior High.

Sat 8-28-48

The board of education will spend $91,690 for the new cafeteria and heating plant basement at Dunbar, and $162,975 for the new auditorium and shops at Carver. Money for these projects will come out of the separate school building fund in which cash on hand amounted to $162,905.72 on July 1st. The total estimate on the two projects has been set at $280,131, and the additional $117,225.28 needed to complete the project will be financed by .7306 mills, requested of the county excise board.

Big Program Will Equalize Facilities In Negro Schools

The Courier
Sat 9-4-48

(14)

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Special to The Courier)

TULSA, Okla.—This city is going to pay a high price to maintain racial segregation in its school system. It has announced a $2,000,000 program aimed at equalizing Negro educational facilities with those of whites here in the "world's most segregated city" as some call it.

City school board officials say the program is to be completed by 1952.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS

One and a half-million dollars will be spent to build an all-new Booker T. Washington High School on a new land site, a high school and elementary school in the Sand Springs area, $35,000 heating and improved lighting systems at Dunbar and Booker T. Washington elementary schools, a new cafeteria for the former and improvements at the ~~Carver Junior High School.~~

The Carver improvements include a new auditorium, shop classrooms and a better lighting system.

In this city there are no Negro residents other than servants living in "white" sections and all the Negroes are forced to live in the segregated sections located along the city's outskirts and "across the railroad tracks."

Sat 9-4-48

The equalization program is an outgrowth of the U. S. Supreme Court decision ordering equal facilities in Oklahoma in the Ada Sipuel-Fisher case.

Mixed School Parent Group Honors Race Woman

The Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va.

Sat.

(14)

Sat. 1-3-48

The Parents' Association of Manumit School, Bucks County Pa., elected Mrs. Emerald Gartrelle-Adkins, New York City business woman, president at a recent meeting in New York City. Mrs. Adkins' son, Charles is the only Negro at the institution. New officers of the association are, seated, left to right: Mrs. Rachael Fearing, vice president; Mrs. Adkins, president; Mrs. Constance Darkey, secretary. Standing, left to right, are C. L. Leake and Mrs. Lucia Moorehead of the executive committee, Sig Lurio, treasurer, and Mrs. Stella Willins. Manumit School has been operating for more than 25 years. It stresses intercultural scholarship and education in a liberal atmosphere for students of both races. Most students come from the metropolitan area of New York. Recently a scholarship fund for Chinese and Negro children was established. Mrs. Adkins, former student at Paine College and the University of Chicago, is owner of "Gartrelle's" beauty salon in upper Manhattan.

The Journal & Guide

1-3-48

Norfolk, Va.

PA. SCHOOLS DISCRIMINATE, NAACP SURVEY SHOWS

May 27, 1948

(14)

Press of the NAACP

New York, N.Y.

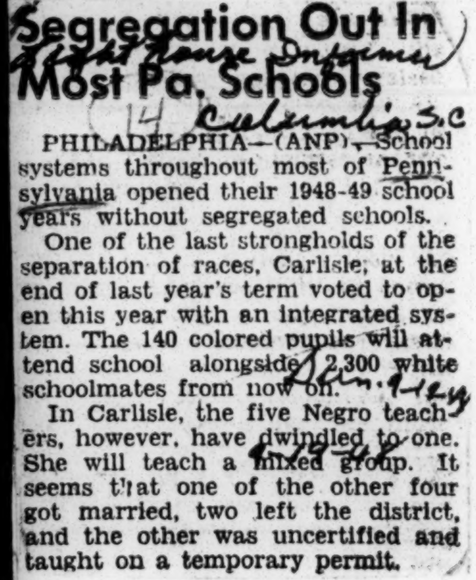
Thurs 5-27-48

NEW YORK, May 27.—Widespread segregation and discrimination in the public school systems of Pennsylvania communities were uncovered by a survey conducted by Rufus Smith, assistant field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Assisting in making the survey were NAACP branches, Lincoln University, the Educational Equality League, and the Social Action division of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Smith discovered that segregated schools for Negroes persist in Pennsylvania as a recognized social institution. One-third of the thirty-seven communities visited maintain some form of formal separation between Negro and white pupils. There is a general unwillingness to integrate Negro teachers into the school system. Only thirteen of the towns visited employ Negroes on their teaching staffs. Where Negro teachers are employed, with the single exception of Pittsburgh, they may instruct colored students only. Although extra-curricular activities are widely integrated, Negro students are discouraged from participating in dramatics.

One of the communities visited by the NAACP, Carlisle, has since indicated that Negro students will not be segregated after the expiration of the present school term. Aside from Carlisle, segregated schools were found to exist in Johnstown, York, Coatesville, Morton, Chester and West Chester. Segregated classes within the same school exist in Washington, Downington, Kennett Square and Avondale.

This is the second educational survey conducted by the NAACP. In 1946 and 1947, a survey of New Jersey school systems revealed widespread discriminatory practices, many of which have since been eliminated through activity of the New Jersey State Conference of NAACP Branches.



Segregation Out In Most Pa. Schools

Light House Informer

(14) Columbia, S.C.

PHILADELPHIA—(ANP)—School systems throughout most of Pennsylvania opened their 1948-49 school years without segregated schools.

One of the last strongholds of the separation of races, Carlisle, at the end of last year's term voted to open this year with an integrated system. The 140 colored pupils will attend school alongside 2,300 white schoolmates from now on.

Sun. 9-12-48

In Carlisle, the five Negro teachers, however, have dwindled to one. She will teach a mixed group. It seems that one of the other four got married, two left the district, and the other was uncertified and taught on a temporary permit.

9-13-48

Bystander

Editor Says Dual Education in Most States Disgrace

Des. Moines, Iowa

Thur 1-29-48

Chicago.—Citing the instance of a Southern public school for Negroes set up by a disinterested white board of education in a chicken coop, New York Times education editor Benjamin Fine declares in February Negro Digest that school facilities for Negroes in most dual states is a disgrace to U.S. democracy.

Bystander

"Frequently in dual states," Fine says, "the Negro child does not have an equal opportunity with whites. His teachers are far less competent, receive substantially lower salaries. The equipment and supplies are meager and obsolete, the school plants are inadequate. And no matter how bad it is in cities, the set-up for Negroes in rural areas is far worse.

Thur 1-29-48

"Very often," the Negro Digest article continues, "The Negro student cannot go farther than the seventh grade. And out of 9,000,000 Negroes in 18 states there are only 30,000 colored candidates for graduation each year."

North Carolina is pointed out by as an exception to the general practice by Southern states of relegating Negro education to a degenerate back seat, and has gone far toward eliminating discriminatory distribution of funds. Most other states in the South allow far more for whites than for colored. In Mississippi 606.6 per cent more is spent on each white student than on Negro.

In many instances, Fine asserts, Negroes are given condemned buildings for school houses. Rain pours through the roofs or sweeps into the

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THE DEEP SOUTH SPEAKS

The Informer and Texas Freeman

By ROBERT DURR For NNPA News Service

San Antonio, Texas

"It is pardonable and understandable pride that we of the South resent the presumption of outside meddlers who try to tell us how to run our own affairs." writes O. O. Emmerich, white, in the McComb (Mississippi) Enterprise-Journal.

Sat. 2-7-48

(14)

"But if we are to be righteous in our indignation we are ethically compelled to accept the responsibility of correction of some of the evils which we in our own hearts know to be true.

"There are some subjects which most Southerners simply do not want discussed publicly. In Mississippi, for example, it is preferred that little or nothing be said about Negro education. Newspapers are reeatedly asked to avoid the subject. Political leaders live in holy terror of a federal suit which would compel us to improve the educational facilities provided for Negroes within our state. But silence is no solution. And getting 'hot under the collar" and blowing off prejudicial steam every time the subject is mentioned, will do nothing but postpone consideration of a proposition which inevitably must be confronted.

Sat. 2-7-48

"Mississippi is spending more money on transportation alone to day, of white children to and from schools, than we are spending on the education of Negro children.

We have in Mississippi 377,000 white and 477,000 colored educable children. In 1946 we spent 3 1half million dollars transporting white school children. For the transportation of Negro children we spent $152,000.

We are spending approximately 13 million dollars for instruction of white boys and girls and 3 and one third millions for the instruction of Negro boys and girls.

The Informer and Texas Freeman

"In Mississippi we have a compulsory education law.' Yet we find that only 269,405 of the state's 477,157 educable Negro children are in school. By what logic can we ignore this compulsory education law simply because 207,752-youngsters in violation are Negroes? What can we hope for our state's future when nearly a quarter of a million youths of any race are permitted to loaf our streets, learning the way of criminals, when the state should have them in schools, learning the ways of respectability and reliability?

San Antonio, Texas

'Immediately we can hear the retort of some ruffled reader, who will say "But Negroes do not pay as much in taxation as do the white people.' To pursue this argument is to ignore the basic principle in Mississil education, that principle known as the, equalization law' which provided that the richer counties pay into a general educational fund to be distributed to the poorer counties on the fundamental basis 'of supplying the greatest financial aid where the need is greatest.'

Sat. 2-7-48

"And what about such situations as the Madison County school district where Negro property-holders pay more tax money into the district than do the white peolpe? In that district there is a modern consolidated school for white children and two small, inadequate schools for Negroes--one located in a lodge building, the other in a church. Nor can we dismiss the fact that 21 percent of our farm owners are Negroes and that all of them pay the 2 percent sales tax from which is created the bulk of our school budget.

The Informer Texas Freeman

'We of the South must comprehen that ignorance, poverty, illiteracy, disease and criminality are costly factors in our society. It makes no difference what race contributes more to these community evils.

San Antonio, Texas

Many a white person has died from diseases spread by Negroes-- and vice versa. We must rise above our prejudices and recognize that the means of overcoming these liabilities through a constructive system of public school training.

Sat. 2-7-48

"Seldon does a day pass but that some outsiders hurl offensive jibes at us concerning Southern statistical tail-dragging. They decry our high ration of illiteracy. In Mississippi we retaliate by arguing that white illiteracy is only two per cent and that it is the Negro illiteracy of 11.8 per cent which sails our oscutcheon. Then we argue that the problem of white education is one of Negro Education. Actually it is the reverse. The problem of Negro education is white education.

'Get angry if we must. when outsiders prick our pride; condemn their meddling, if we will, but the obligation is ours no matter how unwilling we may be to open our

A Mississippi Editor Speaks Out

(14) The South

eyes in the South. Blind prejudice will keep us blind--and keep us down. This is the great problem of Mississippi and the South today.'

Paper Says South Must Really Equalize Schools

(14)

Atlanta Daily World

BATON ROUGE, La.—(ANP) — Young southern whites, unlike their elders, are rapidly awakening to the realization that true democracy can only come when all peoples, no matter what their race, creed or color, are accepted and afforded equal status in the social and economic structure in this country. An example of this mounting tide of liberalism was displayed in a recent editorial by the Daily Reveille, official organ of the white Louisiana State university here.

Thurs. 4-22-48

The article was entitled "Are Southern Educators Facing the Colored Problem Squarely?" It spoke of the recommendations of a joint committee of six deans from the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma A and M. to the state regents for higher education that bonds of segregation be relaxed to permit Negroes to enroll in the graduate schools. Also outlined was the state's refusal to permit Negro attendance at these schools and the setting up of an "entirely inadequate" law school in the Oklahoma capital as a branch of Langston university.

GROWING CHANGE NOTED

The editorial said, "The development in Oklahoma and in other states throughout the south portend a growing change in our social and economic structure. The decision must be made by southerners whether to admit the Negro in to our cultural society or to pay the price for continued segregation. This decision must be evidenced immediately by those of us in the south for a simple reason.

"The states of the south must plan to provide really equal facilities, or to face the alternative of having it forced upon us from out side sources. This action occurred in Oklahoma and it is reasonable to assume that it could happen elsewhere.

4-22-48

"With clear and guided action, the legislators and educators of the south might well avert potential difficulties by aoting on their own accord without waiting for outside pressure."

Dixie's Educational Dilemma

The Courier

With another severe blow struck at color discrimination in education by the United States Supreme Court, the whole educational set-up in the South is challenged as never before.

(14)

All over the South State educational bosses are in a huddle discussing what to do as they are more and more cornered by the law.

Sat 1-24-48

They know full well that they can no longer cheat on Negro education as they have done in the past, and turn the sums taken from Negro pupils over to the authorities for expenditure on white pupils.

They have already been required, in many places, and soon will in all of them, pay equal salaries to colored and white teachers of comparable educational background and experience.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Now they must either admit qualified Negro students to their graduate schools or set up comparable ones for colored people, and to do that in a manner that will prove satisfactory to the U. S. Supreme Court will cost a pretty penny.

So we imagine the Southern officials do not really know what to do.

Practically all of them are determined to keep Negro students out of the established graduate schools, but at the same time they must reject the idiotic solution (?) of establishing universities for a handful of Negroes, which is like setting up such separate institutions for left-handed people.

Any way they look at it they know it means trouble.

If they surrender and admit a few Negro graduate students to their tax-supported universities there will be an uproar from many die-hard Negrophobes.

On the other hand, if they do not carry out the directive of the U. S. Supreme Court, there will be strong words from that body, and loud, indignant outcries from colored people. Sat. 1-24-48

It is pretty tough going for Southern educators these days. Yes, sir!

School Crisis Is Foreseen In South Unless U. S. Aids

The Advertiser

14

Fri. 11-12-48

Within 10 years the Southern states will be unable to build the schools they need without federal help, according to the Education Bulletin, published by the Alabama Education Association.

Montgomery, Ala.

The Southern states have one-third of the nation's children and yet only one-eighth of the nation's wealth, the bulletin states.

It is predicted that by 1956 eight billion dollars will be needed for new school construction to meet the increase in pupils.

The only way this problem can be met is by the federal aid, the bulletin declares, saying that funds from this would, if passed, be divided according to the states that needed it most.

In 5 Years

Within five years the school situation in the United States will be much worse than it is now, the bulletin says. Fri. 11-12-48

It continued: "In fact, in five years we are apt to look upon 1948 as an educational utopia—unless a tremendous effort is made all over the country to meet the crisis."

The bulletin predicts that in three years (1951) total school enrollments will be approximately 2,400,000 more than this year, and that in 1956 there will be approximately 8,000,000 more children seeking enrollment.

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Communities all over America are not only faced with the necessity of maintaining existing schools and repairing and modernizing school buildings that were neglected during the war years, but also with the frightfully expensive task of building more schools to accomodate the extra millions of children born during and since the war, the bulletin stated. Fri. 11-12-48

4,000,000 Out

Four million children of school age are not attending school at all now, it continues. Many children are going to school only six months of the year instead of the normal ten months. In some communities schools are already terrifically overcrowded and in other communities the buildings are unsafe.

During and since the war, more than 350,000 of our 850,000 teachers have left teaching, in addition to the normal turnover, the bulletin says. "There is a particularly alarming loss in men teachers. More than 110,000 emergency teachers are now employed who do not have the proper qualifications. Seventy-five thousand teaching positions remain unfilled, and fewer young people are going into teaching as a profession, largely because of the low pay offered."

EQUAL SCHOOLING DISPUTED IN SOUTH

New York Times 12-20-48

14

New York, N.Y.

Atlanta Urban League Offers Data Showing Results of Lower Outlay for Negroes

Mon. 12-20-48

By JOHN N. POPHAM

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 19—The assertion of some political leaders in Southern states that separate public school facilities for both races meet legal requirements that they be uniform and equal is largely a matter of "fiction," according to the Atlanta Urban League.

Mrs. G. T. Hamilton, executive secretary of the unit, called attention to the league's new supplemental report on public school facilities for Negroes in Atlanta to support the accusation of "inequality." Mon. 12-20-48

Of the 70,894 children of school age in Atlanta, 26,528 are Negroes and 44,456 are whites, the report stated, but there is an average of one school for every 855 white children and one for every 2,040 Negro children.

Statistical tables in the report showed that in 1946-47 the average per pupil expenditure for white children was $139.73 and the average for Negro children was $59.88. The tables also showed that about twice as much was spent for the education of the average white child at all levels than for that of the average Negro child. Mon. 12-20-48

Figures on Discrepancies

One table showed that in 1946-47 three times as much was invested per pupil in school plants for white children as for Negro children.

In 1947-48, the report declared, the average white school child received his education in a school having facilities representing an investment of $383.87 per pupil, as against $153.42 for the average Negro school child.

The difference in per-pupil expenditures is reflected in the absence in Negro schools of libraries, cafeterias, gymnasiums and auditoriums, the report went on. Of greatest immediate concern to the individual parent and taxpayer, the report added, is the fact that these discrepancies are the basic cause of double sessions.

The report stated that of the 13,000 Negro elementary school children enrolled in Atlanta more than 90 per cent "attend school only two to three hours each day because of double or triple session." The number of Negro elementary school children at double sessions this year, it said, is greater than the total Negro elementary school enrollment last year.

The Urban League estimated that the Negro pupil loses about 2,700 class hours during the first six years of his elementary school education because of double sessions caused by insufficient classrooms.

Ratio of Building Funds

As a result of citizen's action, Mrs. Hamilton said, it was decided in 1946 to allocate about $3,000,000 for Negro schools out of a $9,000,000 bond issue, a ratio somewhat in proportion to the population figures.

However, she asserted, it has recently been learned that the Board of Education has authorized an increased expenditure of $1,126,409, or 26 per cent, for white school projects under way than was alloted in the bond plan, while the authorization for Negro facilities is $20,178, or 1 per cent, less than the amount allocated under the bond program.

"Citizens may legitimately be concerned that the cost of construction for one group of children exceeds the original allocation, while construction for another group is carried out at costs which permit a small saving within the original allocation," Mrs. Hamilton said.

She warned of the social consequences of such inequities and declared that "the development of consistency between stated administration policy and administrative practice in the South would tend to sustain and improve American democracy."

Survey Reveals Fundamental Difference In South's Schools

The Lighthouse & Informer

Columbia, S.C.

(First of a Series)

CHICAGO— (ANP)—Education of Negro children from grades one to 12 in the south and in border states suffers measurably when compared to education of white children in the same areas on the bases of teachers, teacher education and percentage of children attending school.

Sunday

14 Sun. 5-23-48

These facts were evealed in a survey of the state directors of education by the Associated Negro Press.

This study for the facts about Negro education in southern and border states was made to find out whether these areas were already complying with a provision of the recently passed federal aid in education to state laws which called for "a just and equitable apportionment of funds provided under this act" in states where separate schools are maintained for minority races." Sun. 5-23-48

This just and equitable apportionment means to provide money for minorities in proportion to its percentage of the population.

QUERY SENT OUT

In this study the ANP sent asked the state educators 12 questions which would provide statistics on education of whites and Negroes in their provinces.

The following states answered: Texas, Virginia, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Missouri, Louisiana, Georgia Kansas, North Carolina, Kentucky, Arkansas, Alabama, South Carolina and Florida.

Mississippi and West Virginia did not answer.

The answers revealed that:

The border state s(except Kansas) are somewhat better than the states in the deep south in teaching facilities offered and percentage of children attending school.

A few southern states do give on the basis of students per teacher and teachers' qualifications comparatively equal education.

LARGER CLASSES

In most of the southern states colored teachers have larger classes and less training than do the white teachers.

One inconsistency was brought out in the survey, however, school facilities evidently have no effect on the number of children attending school. In many of the states the percentage of colored children was as large as or larger than this percentage of white children going regularly.

Questions asked were as follows:

How many Negro teachers are there in your state?

How many of your Negro teachers have college degrees? How many have normal school degrees? How many have only high school degrees?

How many Negro school children are there in the state? What percentage of these children do you think actually attend school?

WHITES ALSO QUERIED

The above six questions were also asked concerning white teachers and school children.

From answers to these queries the states have been divided into three groups, the border states, "liberal" southern states and discriminating southern states.

In group one, Kansas is outstanding for its apparent lack of discrimination. In this state, according to Harlan Jennings, field executive of the department of public instruction, only in Kansas City, on the Missouri border, are all Negro and white children segregated.

In 10 major cities besides Kansas City, there are 18 colored elementary schools, and six second class cities have a colored school each. "Segregation is not widespread in Kansas," Jennings said.

Statistics on teachers are not broken down according to race here either. Except in a few all-Negro schools, white teachers are in all the schools of the state.

NOT SO GOOD Sun. 5-23-48

The situation in other border states is not quite so good, the ANP survey disclosed. Kentucky, Oklahoma and Missouri all segregate their pupils. Only Kentucky does not classify teachers by race.

In all three states, however, the percentage of colored children attending school is about 5 per cent higher than whites. Qualifications of all teachers were about the same in all three states, too. In Oklahoma, a new law requiring all teachers to have at least 60 college hours credit, probably will insure equal standards for all teachers in this state.

All three states fall off in comparing teachers provided for colored children to the number of teachers for whites. Kentucky has slightly more students per teacher in colored schools than in white. Each colored teacher has an average of 30 pupils in Oklahoma compared to about 25 per white instructor. Missouri has one teacher for 30 colored children and one for 20 whites.

Answering for each state were: Oklahoma, Clifford Powell, state agent of Negro education; Missouri, Oscar G. Schupp, director of research and statistical information of the department of education, division of public schools, and Kentucky, C. T. Ward.

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